

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## “PAUL REVERE FORUM” AND THE PAUL REVERE FREEDOM TO WARN ACT

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, on February 27th, 2002, I was honored to be joined by a number of American patriots for a forum on my legislation, the Paul Revere Freedom To Warn Act.

The courage of the whistleblowers who joined me that day was wonderful testimony to the power of the individual and to the responsibility we all have to monitor our national security. Brave men and women have taken great personal risks to protect all of us. Now we must do a better job protecting them.

For years, whistleblowers have been forced to make personal sacrifices in order to do what is right. I would submit that, at the least, whistleblowers deserve to be free from retaliation for simply doing what is right.

The is why I sponsored the Paul Revere Freedom to Warn Act. This legislation would merely give people a remedy. This legislation would merely say that any whistleblower who is retaliated against (in contravention of the Lloyd-LaFollette Act, which is current law), should have the right to seek redress for their harm.

I would like to thank all those who attended the forum on February 27th as well as the event's sponsors, the Government Accountability Project, the Project on Government Oversight, and the National Whistleblower Center. In particular, I would like to thank former New York Police Detective Frank Serpico for detailing his personal account. Mr. Serpico, who courageously exposed police corruption in the 1970's, is a shining example of how one person's courage can change the system and make life better for millions of people.

I was moved by the heroism of these individuals and unsettled by our failure to protect them in the past. This was no less true with Mr. Bogdan Dzakovic, whose efforts to warn the FAA about serious flaws in airport security, were virtually ignored. Matthew Zipoli, Randy Robarge, Ronald E. Timm, and Darlene Catalan, other patriots and whistleblowers, told their stories, and I thank them as well for reminding us that whistleblowers need our protection now more than ever.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that articles dealing with the forum and whistleblower issues from the Christian Science Monitor, the Washington Post and the Bureau of National Affairs' Government Employee Relations Report appear in the RECORD at this time.

[From the Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 28, 2002]

### DEFENDING WHISTLEBLOWERS

The public is well served by the courageous few who put their careers at risk by going public about a dangerous or unethical situation in their area of work.

The latest example of such noble whistleblowing is Enron's Sherron Watkins, who brought to light the accounting fiction of Enron's books.

But she, like many whistleblowers, had difficulties getting the truth out. About 90 percent of whistleblowers experience some reprisal or threat of one.

A public forum is being held on Capitol Hill this week to drum up more protection for public truth-tellers whether they be in aviation, nuclear power plants, border security, or the military.

Many parts of government rely on secrecy for their work but, as Tom Devine of the watchdog Government Accountability Project points out in these post-9/11 days: "Secrecy can be a threat to national security. It can sustain government breakdowns that create vulnerability to terrorism."

The 1989 Whistleblower Protection Act needs to have some loopholes closed, and a bipartisan effort within Congress to do just that is gaining momentum.

Congress should seize the opportunity to make sure citizens who sound the alarm have the rights—and protections—they need in order to help safeguard the greater society.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 28, 2002]

### MORE HELP SOUGHT FOR THOSE WHO BLOW WHISTLE

(By Bill Miller)

Joined by government insiders who had gone public with concerns about lapses in security at airports, nuclear facilities and borders, three watchdog groups yesterday called for stronger federal laws to protect whistleblowers from workplace retaliation.

"We can do a lot more to defend national security by listening to the messengers," said Tom Devine, legal director for the Government Accountability Project. "These people are the pros on the front lines, and they've been beating their heads against bureaucratic walls for years and warning that we're not prepared."

But, Devine said, those who come forward run the risk of being harassed, demoted or put out of work because of loopholes in the federal laws meant to protect them.

The 1989 Whistleblower Protection Act was supposed to protect federal employees, who wanted to expose misconduct, waste or abuse. But it has been narrowly interpreted by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit to exclude employees who first take their allegations to supervisors or co-workers, Devine said. Judges also have demanded that employees present "irrefragable," or indisputable, proof of the credibility of their disclosures, a nearly impossible standard, Devine said.

Devine spoke at an event billed as the "Paul Revere Forum," in honor of the Revolutionary War hero who rode through Massachusetts in 1775 to warn that the British troops were coming. Two other groups—the Project on Government Oversight (POGO) and the National Whistleblower Center—joined the call for tougher legislation.

"Rather than admit their failings, large institutions always seek to destroy the messenger, no matter how high the stakes," said Danielle Brian, POGO's executive director.

The organizations presented first-person accounts from former New York City police

detective Frank Serpico, who exposed police corruption in the 1970s, as well as from five people who have warned that the United States remains vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

They included Randy Robarge, a former nuclear power plant supervisor, who said those facilities remain at risk; former security officer Mathew Zipoli and government consultant Ronald E. Timm, who alleged that security is lax at nuclear weapons research facilities; Darlene Catalan, a former U.S. Customs agent who said railroad tanker cars aren't being adequately checked for explosives at the borders; and Bogdan J. Dzakovic, the leader of a Federal Aviation Administration security team who went public this week with allegations that government officials ignored problems for years.

Dzakovic said he led a security team that was able to get weapons or explosives past airport checkpoints in 1998 but that the FAA failed to follow up.

The Office of Special Counsel, which investigates whistle-blower cases, asked the Transportation Department to review Dzakovic's complaints on Feb. 5; his allegations were first reported on Monday by USA Today. Yesterday, Dzakovic said he continued to work for the new federal Transportation Security Administration. FAA officials have declined to discuss the matter but maintained that security problems have been addressed.

Advocates said that two measures pending in Congress would protect other whistleblowers so they could raise similar concerns without fear of reprisals.

The first is a proposed amendment to the 1989 law, backed by Rep. Constance A. Morella (R-Md.), that would change the standards to make it easier to win cases. The other is a bill that would make it illegal for public or private employers to retaliate against whistle-blowers and would permit them to take their cases before federal juries. Its backers include Rep. Steve Israel (D-N.Y.) and Sen. Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa).

The timing is urgent, Israel said, adding: "I think it's vital that Americans are fully aware of their level of security at our airports and that people working in the federal government aren't afraid of alerting the public to these conditions."

[From the Government Employee Relations Report, Mar. 5, 2002]

### WHISTLEBLOWERS WOULD GET ACCESS TO COURTS, RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES UNDER NEW BILL

Federal whistleblowers would be able to bypass the Merit Systems Protection Board and go directly to U.S. district court, where they could seek compensatory and punitive damage, under legislation introduced in the House Feb. 26 by Rep. Steve Israel (D-N.Y.).

The Paul Revere Freedom to Warn Act (H.R. 3806) also would allow state and local government whistleblowers, as well as private sector whistleblowers, to bring claims in federal court, providing an alternative venue to the current patchwork of laws affecting those whistleblowers.

The bill provides that any person experiencing whistleblower retaliation for communicating with Congress or federal law enforcement agencies may bring a civil action—and is entitled to a jury trial—in the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

appropriate federal trial court within three years of the date of the violation. Suits against any person, organization, or employer responsible for a violation may seek lost wages and benefits; reinstatement; attorneys' fees and costs; compensatory and punitive damages; and equitable, injunctive, and other appropriate relief.

Remedy for Inconsistent Coverage. One of the purposes of the bill, according to Tom Devine, executive director of the Government Accountability Project, a nonprofit groups based in Washington, D.C., is to put teeth into the congressional right-to-know law, the Lloyd LaFollette Act of 1912. While that bill made whistleblower retaliation illegal, he said, it did not provide for a legal remedy. Various whistleblower statutes provide administrative remedies for federal and nonfederal workers, but the coverage of those laws is inconsistent, Devine said in talking points prepared for a Feb. 27 press event to announce the introduction of the new legislation.

Legislation introduced by Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) June 7, 2001, in the Senate and by Rep. Constance A. Morella (R-Md.) July 23, 2001, in the House as S. 995 and H.R. 2588, respectively, would strengthen the Whistleblower Protection Act, which is designed to protect federal whistleblowers (39 GERR 865, 8/7/01). Among other things, the Akaka and Morella bills would clarify what types of information disclosures are protected from prohibited personnel practices such as retaliation.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO AL AGOVINO

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Al Agovino is a man who knows how to give of himself. He started, officially, in the Pacific Theater with Motor Torpedo Squadron 36 and was awarded five Battle Stars.

Back home in the Bronx he has also been generous with his time and ability. At St. Benedict's Church he has been President of the Holy Name Society and Co-ordinator of the Church Ushers and of the Blood Bank. He has been Grand Knight of St. Luke's Council of the Knights of Columbus. He has served on the New York State Autism Advisory Council. He also serves on the Bronx Consumer Council.

He has also served on the Bronx Developmental Disabilities Service Office Parent Association, on the Human Resources Administration Advisory Council, and on the New York State Commission on Quality Care for the Mentally Disabled Advisory Council.

If that wasn't enough he has been a vital advocate for parents and for all people with developmental disabilities and their families. He has served on the Board of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children and in that capacity rarely missed a meeting in over twenty years. His presence has made AHRC a force in its field.

More immediately, I rise today to speak of Mr. Agovino with some sadness, for he is retiring from the Board of Visitors Association after 25 years of constant and devoted service. The Board oversees conditions and the quality of life offered to patients in the State Psychiatric and Developmental Centers. While on the Board, to which he was named by the Gov-

ernor and confirmed by the State Senate, he also served on many committees including Government Relations and Geriatric, and was also President of the New York State Association of Boards of Visitors. His leaving will leave a hole in our hearts and our abilities.

Al and his wife Vera have been married for 55 years. They had six children who in turn gave them six grandchildren. I offer him my sincerest congratulations for all he has done, and it is a lot. I join with the countless others he knows and has helped in wishing the very best in all that he does. He has made the world a better place.

#### MONINA SUNGA RECIPIENT OF 2001 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING (PAEMST)

#### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Program (PAEMST) is designed to recognize our nation's outstanding teachers. Administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF), recipients of the program's awards serve as role models for peers. They focus interest upon the teaching profession, encourage high quality teachers to remain in the field of education, and generate the enthusiasm required to foster the next generation of teachers.

One of the outstanding individuals to be honored this year is Ms. Monina Sunga, a science teacher from the Vicente S.A. Benavente Middle School in Dededo, Guam. Monina joined fellow-awardees from all over the United States in a visit to our Nation's capital where they were honored for their achievements. During her visit to Washington, DC, she had the opportunity to meet and confer with government and education officials along with other awardees. Having received this honor, she became part of a growing network of exceptional teachers.

Monina has been described as "a teacher who takes a hand, opens a mind and touches a heart." To her students, she is a counselor, supporter and friend. Having been a teacher on Guam for more than twenty-five years, Monina claims to have found the "fountain of youth" within her mind and within her classroom. Convinced that her youthful disposition is derived from her students, she has made it known that she intends to say as a classroom instructor for as long as she is able to do so. To her fellow teachers she imparts the knowledge that the true joy of teaching is achieved when teachers ultimately inspire students to learn.

As a science teacher, Monina found that going beyond the assigned readings is a very efficient method of teaching the subject. She firmly believes that healthy interaction in conjunction with hands-on training for the children are keys to successful learning. She encourages her students to use their natural environment as their laboratories. Her students are acquainted with learning tools derived from the simplest of things and they respond with great enthusiasm to her teaching method.

In addition to the prestige Monina brings to her school and the pride she instills in her students, the rewards of being a PAEMST awardee also includes a grant of \$7,500 which will be employed for the benefit of her school. This goes a long way towards furthering her goals and examples.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize and highlight the contributions of Ms. Monina Sunga and her fellow teachers. Having been a former classroom teacher herself, I am aware of the sacrifices and high standards expected from those in the teaching profession. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and admiration for the teachers whose constant contributions instill exemplary values and shape the lives of our children, our communities and our future.

#### COMMEMORATING THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

#### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 23rd anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act today, I wish to comment on the special relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter switched diplomatic recognition from the Republic of China to the People's Republic of China. To ensure Taiwan would continue to prosper and grow, Congress passed the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979. For the last twenty-three years, the Taiwan Relations Act has worked exceedingly well, providing Taiwan with the necessary security, while reminding the Chinese mainland not to use force against this flourishing democracy. On this 23rd anniversary, it is important to remind everyone that the United States stands behind the spirit of the Taiwan Relations Act.

The United States continues to enjoy a longstanding and healthy relationship with Taiwan. The people of Taiwan have always stood shoulder to shoulder with us, and we should stand by them as well. I rise today in recognition of these continued positive relations between Taiwan and the United States.

#### JEREMY J. WARREN'S HONOR FOR SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

#### HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jeremy J. Warren for his selfless service to citizens of the United States during the September 11 tragedy in New York.

Jeremy and 11 of his classmates at the United States Merchant Marine Academy were called to aid in rescue efforts merely hours after the World Trade Centers collapsed. Jeremy used his extensive rescue training to help search the debris during the critical post-collapse hours in hopes of finding survivors. Jeremy worked at ground zero through the night and was relieved from the operation in the early morning hours of September 12.

In 1994, Jeremy graduated from Midland Lee High School in my congressional district. He sought a nomination to the United States Merchant Marine Academy and was granted the appointment. In June 2002, Jeremy will graduate from this institution. The excellent training Jeremy received at King's Point paid off not only for himself but also his country.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to publicly thank Jeremy for his actions on September 11, 2001, and to extend my congratulations to him on the occasion of his upcoming graduation. I wish him nothing but the best for the future.

IN TRIBUTE TO MARY A. GAINES

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Carter G. Woodson Award of Mercy College has been given annually since 1986 to notable contributors to African American life and history. This year the awardee is Mary A. Gaines, the executive director of the Nepperhan Community Center. I am proud to consider her a good friend.

Early in her life Mary knew she wanted to work with young people. She came to Yonkers from North Carolina and studied at Mercy College and Westchester Community College. Since 1968 she has served in various capacities in the Nepperhan Community Center, an organization serving a wide range of community needs.

Indeed Mary has touched the lives of hundreds, if not thousands of young people in her time at the Community Center. During that same period of time the Nepperhan Community Center grew from a small, cramped facility to one occupying a renovated and spacious building. The youth programs have become much more solidly funded and the number of programs serving the community has grown to include the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Service Program, the Independent Living Skills/Careers for Youth, the Youth Communications Network, Act for Youth, the Yonkers Success Training Academy, and the Drug Free Program, among many others.

She has also served in other distinguished organizations such as the United Way of Yonkers, the Black Women's Political Caucus, the New York State Division for Youth Advisory Board, the Yonkers Community Development Agency Board, and many others.

Needless to say she has received many awards for her good works. She attends the Mount Carmel Baptist Church, serving on its Missionary Society and Education Committee.

She epitomizes the adage that if you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. She has worked for several generations of Yonkers youth, helping and guiding them with her knowledge and experience, and her love. If Yonkers is a better place, and it is, we can thank Mary Gaines, and those who share her dedication and devotion to making the lives of its people better. Congratulations Mary, I'm proud to know you and Yonkers is fortunate to have you.

RICHARD DAVID KAHN MELANOMA FOUNDATION

### HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for the Richard David Kahn Melanoma Foundation and to recognize May 6, 2002 as Melanoma Monday, Skin Cancer Awareness Day. This year alone, over one million Americans will be diagnosed with some form of skin cancer. Out of the one million diagnosed—10,000 of those will die—that equals one person every hour.

This number is unconscionable given the fact that skin cancer is 100 percent preventable and curable when detected early. Our most powerful tool against this disease is education. I commend the actions of the Palm Beach County-based Richard David Kahn Melanoma Foundation for its relentless efforts in educating the people of South Florida about the dangers of melanoma and the steps needed to prevent it. The Foundation reaches more than 10,000 local residents directly each year through the many school and community-based presentations and special events.

I would encourage my constituents, and the American people at large, as we come close to the summer of 2002, that they avoid peak sunlight hours (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), when the Sun's rays are most intense. I would also recommend that anyone going outside use the appropriate sun block and minimize their exposure.

Every year we spend billions of dollars on curing thousands of diseases. Melanoma can be cured by simple education and awareness. I am proud of the work that the Foundation has done and am proud to recognize May 6, 2002, Melanoma Monday, Skin Cancer Awareness Day.

COMMENDATION FOR 11-YEAR OLD LIFESAVER, VINCENT MICHAEL CRUZ SABLAN

### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as islanders, the people of my home district of Guam are particularly sensitive to water-related accidents, whether in the ocean, in a swimming pool or in a bathtub. All too often, we are saddened by the news of drowning tragedies, especially those which claim the lives of children. A physical education class at the Andersen Air Force Base swimming pool last December would have ended in another such tragedy, if not for the quick action of 11-year old Vincent Michael Cruz Sablan, a sixth-grade student at DODEA's Andersen Middle School.

On December 19, 2001, as his classmates frolicked in and around the water, Vincent and his friends noticed that another boy was lying motionless on the bottom in the deep end of the pool. At first they thought the boy was fooling around, testing his ability to hold his breath underwater, but they soon realized that the boy was in trouble. A self-taught swimmer with no formal lifesaving training, Vincent was

the only one in the group able to dive deep enough to reach the boy at the bottom of the pool. On his first attempt, Vincent could only get close enough to see that the boy was not just holding his breath. He then re-surfaced, drew a big breath and dove again. He reached the submerged boy's body and grabbed a hold of him. The drowned boy was taller and heavier, but Vincent managed to bring him to the surface.

By then, the commotion had drawn adult attention and base emergency responders were summoned immediately. The boy was not breathing and had to be resuscitated. He was transported to the Naval Regional Medical Center, where he spent two days in the Intensive Care Unit. According to medics, the boy was only seconds away from death, but Vincent's effort made the difference. After five days in the hospital, the boy was released and is now well and fully recovered.

Vincent went home from school that day and made no mention of the incident to his parents, Guam National Guardsman, CWO Vincent A. and Agnes Cruz Sablan, of Dededo. He resumed his sixth-graders life, watching television, playing with his friends, being reminded to do his chores and struggling with his homework. It wasn't until base security called and reported to CWO Sablan that his son was a genuine hero.

Mr. Speaker, as parents, we strive to teach our children right from wrong, to instill in them the virtues and values we hold dear. We try to prepare them for life as responsible adults and we hope that they make right decisions and do good things. Just as we are dismayed when they stumble, we must praise when they shine. Last December, Vincent witnessed something wrong. He realized that someone's life was at stake and that he had to do something to help. He did not panic or turn away from a threatening situation. Instead, he did what he knew was right, and what he did was extraordinary. He saved a life. Afterward, he did not brag about his deed. He sought no accolades or rewards. Even so, this young man deserves our gratitude and our praise, for proving that, when taught, children will be responsible even from an early age. I take great pride and pleasure in commending Vincent Michael Cruz Sablan. He truly is a lifesaver and merits recognition as such.

The youngest of four children, the "baby" of his family, Vincent has already proven himself to be a valuable member of the Guam community. I join his parents and his siblings, Michael, Angela and Steven, in saying, "Well Done, Vincent!"

TRIBUTE TO LYNNE SILBERT

### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am greatly honored today to pay tribute to one of my most unique and closest friends, Lynne Silbert, who has been chosen to receive the prestigious Human Spirit Award from the Wellness Community of West Los Angeles.

It is hard to find words to adequately describe Lynne. Lovely and charming, inside and out, she has touched a myriad of lives. She is warm and generous, but truly defined by her

enormous desire to serve humanity. She is funny and fun; a companion to do something crazy with and a friend so loyal and so sensitive that your moment of need is the moment she is at your side. She approaches life as she approaches her work, with passion and a great heart. As an aside, my wife Janis and I will always remember her opening her home to us for our wedding.

The daughter of distinguished and philanthropic parents, Lillian and Harvey Silbert, Lynne chose—as a young widow with two small children—to go back to school. She received her degree in counseling and started her career with a small nonprofit organization that provided support, education and hope to cancer patient and their families. She has helped that organization grow from a small yellow house in Santa Monica to an international organization with facilities throughout the United States and in Japan and Israel.

Over 19 years later, Lynne is still with the Wellness Community. She has led thousands of support groups, and has infused thousands of cancer patients with hope and determination. Especially noteworthy is her work with children—both the kids of cancer patients and those who suffer with cancer themselves. Beloved by adolescents because she never has lost her own youthfulness, she has both created and facilitated hundreds of groups to support young people battling this dread disease. It takes enormous skill, empathy and grace to do this difficult work. Lynne has an abundance of each of these attributes.

Her good works aren't limited, however, to the Wellness Community. She is a member of the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Board of Governors and is active with the American Friends of Hebrew University. She is the mother of two accomplished daughters: Jill and Gina and, although you'd never know it, the grandmother of four. She is married to a distinguished member of Los Angeles' medical community, Dr. Seth Weingarten.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished Colleagues, I ask you today to join me in saluting Lynne Silbert and congratulating her this honor, which she so richly deserves. She embodies the Spirit of Humanity. To know her is to be greatly blessed and to find your life immeasurably enriched.

IN RECOGNITION OF REGINALD  
LAFAYETTE

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, since he arrived in Mount Vernon from Charleston, South Carolina 30 years ago, Reginald Lafayette has held so many responsible positions in the City we can rightly ask: Could we have gotten along without him.

He started in politics as a Democratic District Leader, a position he still holds. Some of the other positions he holds or has held are the Democratic Chairman of the City of Mount Vernon, member of the Westchester County Democratic Executive Committee, member of the Black Democrats of Westchester, former member of the United States Selective Service Board No. 104, former member of the Mount Vernon Postal Service Board, former Execu-

tive Vice President of the Mount Vernon Chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., former Treasurer of the Independent Citizen's League, former President of the Mount Vernon Lions Club, former member of the Board of Directors of the Westchester Opportunity Program, and former member of the Mount Vernon Day Care Center.

He did all of this while working full time for Met Life for his first nine years in Mount Vernon.

Besides all of the above, he served as Commissioner of Human Rights, as the City of Mount Vernon Deputy Controller for 14 years, and is a member of the Westchester County Board of Elections and the New York State Election Commissioner Association.

He has worked hard to make his community a better place to live and he has succeeded admirably, I and many others in Mount Vernon have long admired his diligence and his ability to achieve results. We are all thankful that we have Reggie among us. I am thankful to know him and to be his friend.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW DONALD  
BREN HALL AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BAR-  
BARA

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize one of the "greenest" commercial buildings in the Nation, Donald Bren Hall. This important structure houses the Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management at the University of Southern California, Santa Barbara and is a living laboratory for sustainable green building practices and materials.

Donald Bren Hall incorporates all of the latest elements of sustainable design, including solar photovoltaic panels that capture the sunlight to provide almost 10 percent of the building's electricity, natural air cooling using ocean breezes and energy-efficient lamps and ballasts, including motion and ambient light sensors to control lighting levels.

Recyclable materials are used throughout the building, including reclaimed carpets, rubber flooring made from recycled tires, ceiling tiles made from cornstarch and recycled paper and roofing materials that insulate and reduce energy consumption. Windows have a device that automatically shuts off the room's heating system when opened and reclaimed water is used for irrigation. The building will use 27 to 40 percent less electricity than a conventional structure.

The new Donald Bren Hall will achieve the Platinum rating from the U.S. Green Building Council for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—or LEED—which is the highest level of distinction given to a capital project that meets or exceeds the strictest requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System.

Mr. Speaker, clearly this building is a role model not only for UCSB, but also for other university campuses throughout the state and country. This building stands as a testament to what is possible when engineers, suppliers and architects work together to achieve a

practical, environmentally-friendly balance between a structure's comfort and its functionality. They have set the bar very high, and I hope this building's influence extends beyond the university setting and into the realm of business and commercial development.

On Friday, April 19, 2002 Donald Bren Hall will be officially welcomed to the Santa Barbara community, Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me today in congratulating the University of California, Santa Barbara for its vision and commitment to working with and on the behalf of our precious environment

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS  
FROM STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL  
IN LINCOLNSHIRE, ILLINOIS

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate nine students from Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Illinois who competed in the prestigious U.S. Academic Decathlon contest over the weekend. Created in 1981, the rigorous program tests students in 10 categories: art, economics, essay, interview, language and literature, mathematics, science, social science, speech, and super-quiz. This year's super-quiz topic was "E-Communication: The Internet and Society."

Stevenson's decathlon team has risen to statewide prominence since it was formed six years ago. The team placed seventh in the Illinois competition in 1997 and fourth the two following years. The squad placed fifth in 2000, second last year and third this year in the state-wide competition.

The team who competed over the weekend in Phoenix, Arizona consisted of: Julia Wallace, a senior from Long Grove; Jessica Eggert, a senior from Hawthorn Woods; Dan Pyster, a senior from Lincolnshire; Dan Kaplan, a senior from Lincolnshire; Jackie Lantz, a senior from Buffalo Grove; Chad Spiegel, a senior from Buffalo Grove; Ryan Schaeffges, a senior from Buffalo Grove; Eric Swanson, a junior from Buffalo Grove; and Jeff Waxman, a junior from Buffalo Grove.

I want to commend these students and teachers who have worked tirelessly on the weekends and after school to prepare to achieve this goal. The team from Stevenson entered the competition ranked 10th in the nation. They faced 55 schools from 40 states which were broken up into three divisions based on their size. The Stevenson team placed 8th in the largest division and 11th in the nation. Congratulations for all your hard work.

CONGRATULATING MR. JAMES  
"BUTCH" BLEVINS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I wish to congratulate Mr. James "Butch" Blevins for his

thirty-seven years of dedicated service to Ironworkers Local #395 in Hammond, Indiana. James will be honored for his strong commitment to the Ironworkers at a retirement party to be held on Saturday, April 20, 2002 at the St. Elijah Serbian-American Hall in Merrillville, Indiana. His leadership and desire for excellence in all of his activities have made James a popular figure among his fellow members, and his departure will be felt throughout the organization.

Throughout its seventy-eight year history, the devoted members of Ironworkers Local #395 have displayed the commitment and work ethic that we in Northwest Indiana value so highly. I can remember as a child hearing my father, an Ironworker himself, tell us the stories of his friends and their experiences together in the workplace. Ironworkers are a loyal, hard-working, dedicated group of individuals who strive to produce the highest quality product that is possible. James "Butch" Belvins has exemplified these characteristics for thirty-seven years at Local #395.

During his thirty-seven years as a member of Ironworkers Local #395, James served as an elected officer for twenty-one years. He currently holds the title of Business Agent, and also serves as the Trustee to the Health and Welfare Plan, as well as the Trustee to the Northwestern Indiana Building Trades. His active role in these positions has been a tremendous asset to his fellow union members as well as to the entire Northwest Indiana community. James also served as a Hammond Precinct Committeeman and as President of the Hammond Economic Development Committee. His personal commitment and dedication to the citizens of Indiana's First Congressional district has been outstanding.

Although he has been a devoted worker and union member, James has always put his family first. He, along with his wife, Sally, takes great pride in raising their three children, Jim, Chad, and Eric. James' retirement will allow him to spend even more time with his loved family, something he eagerly awaits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. James "Butch" Blevins on his retirement after thirty-seven years of faithful and diligent service to Ironworkers Local #395 in Hammond, Indiana. James has been a valuable member to his union as well as to his community, and his service to Northwest Indiana will be greatly missed. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors, and I hope that he enjoys his retirement for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERARD  
LANGLAIS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Social Security benefits have become, since their inception, a mainstay of America's elderly. The men and women who work in the Social Security Administration are responsible for seeing that our elderly and dependents get the benefits they have earned through a lifetime of work.

One such man is Gerard Langlais, the Manager of the East Bronx District Office, who is

now retiring so he can collect his Social Security benefits. And he has earned them. He joined the Social Security Administration in 1961 as a claim representative in Poughkeepsie. Three years later he was promoted to Field Representative and four years later promoted again to Operations Supervisor at the Flatbush District Office. In 1970 he became an Assistant District Manager, also in Brooklyn. Three years later he was promoted to his present position, where he has served honorably and well for the past 29 years.

Mr. Langlais was born in Maine, graduated from Siena College, and served as a Seabee in the U.S. Navy for two years where he operated and designed construction equipment. He and his wife Toni live in Yonkers.

Mr. Langlais has served the people of America in their government for 41 years. It is people like him who make our society work. I congratulate him and thank him for the diligence and dedication he has done, work that has made the lives of so many of our citizens better.

## PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARGE ROUKEMA**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about Enron employees and retirees who invested a substantial portion of their retirement assets in Enron stock and are now facing financial uncertainty. I would like to commend Chairman BOEHNER for working expeditiously to produce a package of reforms that will help protect the retirement savings of millions of American workers.

By virtue of my service on two key Committees—the Committee on Education and Workforce and the Committee on Financial Services—I wear more than one hat when it comes to Enron. As you know, the Financial Services Committee is working to determine how the regulatory system failed in the Enron case and how reforms could correct these shortcomings. Our focus today is retirement security. The issues raised by the Enron bankruptcy have serious implications for millions of Americans who depend on their employers' pension plans for their retirement. Our actions today will help to protect nearly 50 percent of American households.

I represent a section of the country that has become known as a bedroom community for thousands of men and women who work every day in one of the most important financial districts on the planet. The confidence of these professionals has been shaken over the past few months. They come to doubt some of the very institutions they previously had come to rely on. It is obvious that these concerns are echoed throughout the country.

Since the enactment of ERISA in 1974, almost half of American households have joined the "shareholder society" by investing in the stock market, many through their employer-provided defined contribution plans. Today, 42 million workers hold 401(k) accounts amounting to \$2.0 trillion in retirement assets. Private pension plans—including 401(k)s—are crucial to retirement security for millions of Americans. These workers need to have full confidence in the security of their pension plans.

We have spent considerable time over the years promoting expanded pension coverage and portability. But we have also tried to ensure that American workers' pensions and retirement savings are protected. I have always argued that there are three necessary components of a successful retirement system: (1) accessibility; (2) security; and (3) information.

These are exactly the issues that we are facing today. We need to provide our workers easier access to pensions so that they have the ability to save for retirement. We must ensure that retirement savings are secure. And we must ensure that workers have the information they need to make wise choices to fully achieve their retirement goals.

The bill before us today addresses all of these important points. The Pension Security Act of 2002 will: (1) provide workers greater freedom to diversify and manage their own retirement funds; (2) give workers quarterly information about their investments and rights to diversify them; (3) expand workers' access to investment advice; and (4) ensure that senior corporate executives are held to the same restrictions as average American workers during "blackout periods."

In spite of the flaws exposed by the Enron debacle, we must be careful not to dissuade employers from providing such plans to their workers. Even while we make reforms to protect retirement savings, we must continue to encourage employers to make generous contributions to workers' 401(k) plans.

Workers must also be free to choose how to invest their retirement savings. It is not our role to tell employees how to manage their pension plans. However we can ensure that employees have the ability to sell company stock and diversify into other investment options. And we can also guarantee employees access to information and advice regarding their pensions and investments. We have already recognized the importance of equipping workers with the knowledge to make wise decisions for their future, but we must now make this proposal a reality.

I am pleased that this bill contains important provisions to work toward ensuring fiduciary responsibility. Specifically, at Committee markup I offered two amendments which are contained in the bill before us today.

### EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR PLAN FIDUCIARIES

The first provision requires the Secretary of Labor to ensure that information and educational resources are made available to persons serving as fiduciaries under employee benefit plans in order to assist them in diligently and effectively carrying out their fiduciary duties.

There has been a lot of talk on Capitol Hill about the rigorous fiduciary duties under ERISA. Many argue that ERISA subjects fiduciaries to what is considered the highest fiduciary obligation in the law, namely an express trust.

ERISA requires that fiduciaries have a duty of loyalty, prudence, diversification, and that they act in accordance with plan documents. Plan fiduciaries are required to discharge their duties "solely in the interest of participants and beneficiaries" and for the "exclusive purpose" of providing benefits and defraying reasonable expenses of administering the plan."

The law requires that the "assets of a plan shall never inure to the benefit of any employer." It requires that fiduciaries act with the

care, skill, prudence, and diligence that a prudent person familiar with such matters would use in similar circumstances.

The responsibilities of fiduciaries are very clear in ERISA. I know these rules exist and the ERISA lawyers know it too—The problem is that oftentimes the actual fiduciaries are not aware of or do not understand these strict rules governing their behavior.

What the Enron debacle has brought to light is that this carefully crafted law of fiduciary responsibility is not always followed with the due diligence that is expected. Many people who are charged with operating employee benefit plans do not understand what their fiduciary roles require. Even worse, many do not understand the consequences for violating their fiduciary obligations.

This was a problem at a large company like Enron, as we learned from the testimony of one Enron fiduciary, Cindy Olson. We can be assured that the fiduciaries for other companies are likewise not adequately informed about their responsibilities in managing a pension plan.

Dr. Norman Stein testified in front of the Education and Workforce Committee that during a pension-counseling clinic at the University of Alabama, a personnel manager "indicated that she did not know what a fiduciary was, did not know what rules governed a fiduciary behavior, and did not, of course, realize that she herself was a fiduciary."

This is what is happening in the real world. How can we, in good conscience, tell American workers to entrust their retirement security to fiduciaries who do not understand the rules that govern their behavior? How can we ensure that fiduciaries are acting in the sole interest of participants and beneficiaries if they don't even know this requirement exists?

I believe that this provision is a modest first step in addressing this lack of knowledge. The Secretary is directed "to establish a program under which information and educational resources are made available on an ongoing basis to persons serving as fiduciaries under employee benefit plans so as to assist them in diligently and effectively carrying out their fiduciary duties."

This provision is just common sense. It addresses an issue that most of us thought was a given in the implementation of ERISA. The Enron case has demonstrated that we were incorrect in making that assumption. The Department of Labor must ensure that fiduciaries understand their responsibilities under the law. Information dissemination is a necessary first step in preventing breaches of fiduciary duties.

I am pleased that my amendment was accepted unanimously by the Committee and thank the Chairman for ensuring that it is contained in the bill that we are voting on today.

#### INDEPENDENT ADVISORS FOR FIDUCIARIES

The second amendment that was unanimously accepted by the Committee and is included here requires a study of the implications of requiring an independent advisor to provide investment guidance to fiduciaries regarding the management or disposition of plan assets.

I am very concerned about the inherent problems of conflict of interest when a firm must both manage a pension plan and maximize profit. This conflict of interest is particularly acute when the employer has exclusive control over retirement plans.

As we learned all too well from our hearings on the Enron crisis, this conflict of interest is

real and can be detrimental to plan participants. Outside experts would be able to give independent advice to the plan fiduciaries because they are not beholden to the employer.

It makes sense that competent professional advisors should assist with retirement plan investment management. Employers' strict fiduciary responsibilities should necessitate consultation with competent investment managers. Some employers do this. However, as we saw with Enron, others do not. In fact, in the case of Enron, the Department of Labor has taken steps to replace Enron's fiduciaries with independent experts. Every day we talk about the lessons we have learned from the Enron fiasco. This sounds like a lesson to me. How can we correct the situation of Enron and ignore the case of all other workers? Must we wait for other companies to reach the disaster point of Enron before we ensure that independent advisors assist with plan management? Every plan should have the benefit of an independent advisor to assist with plan management. If it makes sense for Enron after-the-fact, it makes sense for all businesses before there is a problem! What we saw in Enron is that when the interest of the plan participants was pitted against company interests, the participants lost.

As such, we should seriously study the implications of requiring employers to hire an independent advisor to assist in the management of plan assets. Rather than requiring that a new trustee board be created or requiring that the independent advisor serve as a plan manager, I believe we should investigate the implications of requiring that plan managers seek advice and guidance from an independent source regarding the management or disposition of plan assets. This is a common sense approach.

I do understand that some employers may be concerned about the implications of such a proposal. This bill requires a study of the issue so we can better understand the specific impact on retirement savings of requiring fiduciary consultants for individual account plans. Specifically, the study would assess:

(1) The benefits to plan participants and beneficiaries of engaging independent fiduciary advisers to provide investment advice regarding the assets of the plan to persons who have fiduciary duties.

(2) The extent to which independent advisers are currently retained by plan fiduciaries.

(3) The availability of assistance to fiduciaries from appropriate Federal agencies.

(4) The availability of qualified independent fiduciary consultants to serve the needs of accounts in individual account plans in the United States.

(5) The impact of the additional fiduciary duty of an independent advisor on the strict fiduciary obligations of plan fiduciaries.

(6) The impact of consulting fees, additional reporting requirements, and new plan duties to prudently identify and contract with qualified independent fiduciary consultants on the availability of individual account plans.

(7) The impact of a new requirement on the plan administration costs per participant for small and mid-size employers and the pension plans they sponsor.

#### CONCLUSION

In sum, I am committed to strengthening the retirement security of workers and their families. I believe that this bill takes important steps to further protect plan participants and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3762 the Pension Security Act of 2002. I believe the time to update Federal pension law is now! I also believe this legislation could have prevented the tragic financial consequences of the Enron collapse, which is why I strongly support H.R. 3762.

This legislation will help ensure the safety of the American workers' pension fund savings through the following ways:

First, this legislation holds businesses to a higher standard of accountability. Specifically, it clarifies that company pension officials who do not act in the best interests of pension beneficiaries, can be held liable for breaching their fiduciary duty; it requires that workers be given 30 days advance notice of any blackout period affecting their pensions; and it forbids employers to sell their stock during "black out" periods when employees are not permitted to sell their stock. Thus, this legislation ensures that the Ken Lay's of the world, do not get rich at the expense of the American workers' pension fund savings.

Second, this legislation empowers the American worker by protecting employees against future abuses by giving them more control over their investments. Specifically, the American worker is empowered with the right to diversify employer stock contributions and the option to sell company stock three years after receiving it.

Third, this legislation also empowers the American worker by increasing their access to quality investment advice and by providing them with more information about their pensions. Specifically, it encourages employers to make investment advice available to their employees; it allows workers to use a tax-free payroll deduction to purchase investment advice on their own; and it requires companies to give quarterly reports that include account information, as well as their rights to diversify.

Notably, the Democrat's alternative for pension reform does not address the current shortcomings in the pension system. Instead, the Democratic alternative increases mandates and regulations that will result in increased costs, which will ultimately discourage employers from offering retirement plans altogether.

Finally, this legislation will help restore confidence in America's pension fund system.

A generation of American workers have enjoyed a safe and secure retirement. By passing H.R. 3762 today, we will ensure future generations enjoy the same safe and secure retirement.

**WE THE PEOPLE—THE CITIZEN  
AND THE CONSTITUTION**

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate the

young scholars of Lake Forest High School in Felton, Delaware who will represent my home state of Delaware in the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. They are part of a group of 1200 students from across the country who will come to Washington, D.C. from May fourth to the sixth to compete in the national finals of this program. These young scholars worked diligently and persistently to reach the national finals and through this program will gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The names of the honored students are: Corinne Bartley, Codi Canasa, Jeffery Chambers, Nicole Cosey, Heather Crouse, Lena Ewing, Michael Field, Danielle Galyean, Davis Gannon, Rebecca Grevis, Darron Johnson, Katie Kindig, Andrea Lewis, Michelle Makdad, Kathryn McClister, Jennifer Petrucci, Jason Schulties, Warren Thomas Smith, Ann Marie Strobe, Leah West, Ashley Wilson and Holly Wilson.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to their teachers, Mrs. Amy Reed-Moore and Ms. Betty Wyatt-Dix, who deserve much of the credit for the success of the team.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young students about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day final competition they will participate in consists of hearings modeled after those in the United States Congress. The students made oral presentations before a panel of adult judges and testify as constitutional experts before a "congressional committee." A panel of adult judges represent various regions of the country and a variety of appropriate professional fields served on the congressional committees. These judges follow up the testimonies with a series of questions designed to test the students' depth of understanding and their ability to apply constitutional knowledge to given situations.

The We the People program is administered by the Center for Civic Education, and has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. This program has promoted civic competence and responsibility among young students as well as awareness for contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The team from Lake Forest High School conducted much research in preparation for the national competition here in Washington, D.C. I congratulate them for their fine work that enabled them to come so far in this competition and to visit our nation's capital.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO LARRY BROWN

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, to have a true community we must have a safe community. During the 1990s the rate of crime has been dropping to rates we haven't seen since the

1960s. For this we can thank the police officers of our communities who work hard and dangerous jobs so our lives will not be dangerous.

One such police officer is Larry Brown of the White Plains Police Department. He graduated from White Plains High School, where he excelled at track and field. He attended Bradley University and then worked at what is now Westchester Medical Center. After a short stint as a Corrections Officer he joined the police department twenty years ago.

Since then he has enjoyed a varied career in law enforcement working in the Detective Division, Records Division, and Warrants Division. He has done background checks and has assisted in recruitment for the Department. He currently works in the Patrol Division. He has also attended a number of training courses to better enable him to perform as a police officer. He has also received a number of citations and acknowledgments for his work.

For the past four years he has served as President of the Westchester/Rockland Guardians and represents that worthy organization at national conferences.

He is a member of the Union Baptist Church and the proud father of Komaphi, Shaahid, a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps, Allana, and Christina.

For his good work and leadership in the law enforcement community, we all owe him our thanks and I am proud to be able to honor him in this small way.

#### IN HONOR OF FATHER PETER SAMMON

#### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and work of a remarkable man, Father Peter Sammon, who died peacefully on March 21, 2002 in San Francisco surrounded by loved ones. Father Sammon was an inspiration and a friend to so many people, and we are all forever grateful for his work. We will miss him terribly. The following are my remarks from his funeral on March 25th at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco:

It is with great personal sadness and official recognition of their loss that I extend my deepest sympathy to Tom Sammon and his entire family. All who loved Peter thank you for sharing him with us and for giving him so much happiness.

To Sister Kathleen and Sister Lucia I extend condolences and appreciation to you for helping Father Sammon reach his fulfillment on earth and giving him the joy of a happy death. We can all hear him say: "Here I am Lord."

It should be a source of comfort to you at this very, very sad time that so many people mourn your loss and are praying for you. So many people were blessed by knowing Father Sammon. I want to express my appreciation for being allowed to bear witness to the life of Peter Sammon.

Throughout his life Father Sammon carried on the legacy established by his namesake

the Apostle Peter whose mission was bestowed upon him by Christ himself when he said "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church." Peter Sammon was our rock and in his 50 years as a priest he continued to build Christ's Church. In doing so he touched so many lives. Whether as the Archdiocesan Director of Family Life counseling young couples, as the Chaplain of Newman Center at San Francisco State, or by forming the parish ministry with Presentation Sisters Kathleen and Lucia, he built the Church to do the Lord's work.

This was pioneering work, a priest working with the sisters to form a parish ministry and training leadership among the laity; this was groundbreaking. Peter Sammon was a pioneer who broke new ground but never left the ground broken.

He made the church the center of movements. Early on, he and Saint Teresa's Parish took up the cause of the Farm Workers and then the Salvadoran refugees. Four years and one day before his death, his friend and comrade in arms Jimmy Herman passed away. They were partners in many pursuits. We will all long remember their work together to turn back the ships carrying Salvadoran coffee, their refusal to unload the coffee. Fred Ross just reminded me this morning as we were crying of the sight of Father Sammon and Jimmy Herman on the docks refusing to unload the coffee from El Salvador.

We take pride, but we must remember, those actions took courage.

Father Sammon was our leader; he not only preached justice, he lived it. Injustice had an impact on Father Sammon that was palpable and he acted upon it. Whether in his leadership in the Sanctuary movement or working for immigrant rights or working for a living wage, Father Sammon always lived justice.

Father Sammon considered himself lucky to be the son of Irish immigrants. It was through his understanding of the courage and determination of his parents, who came to America as teenagers, met here and raised their wonderful family, that he understood the magnificent contribution that Immigrants make to our country.

Where some saw people in need, Father Sammon saw newcomers who constantly invigorate America with their courage, their hopes and their dreams. He saw their commitment to family values, to work and community. And he saw a spark of divinity worthy of respect in every one of them.

Peter brought to his struggles the vision, the knowledge, a plan of action and the ability to attract supporters to his causes. He was a true leader and a great politician. All who were blessed to know him learned from him—not only what to do but how to do it. I certainly did and I know I speak for others who were so blessed. Father Sammon challenged the conscience of our society. We look at his work with pride but must remember that it took tremendous courage.

The Bible tells us that to minister to the needs of God's creation is an act of worship, to ignore those needs is to dishonor the God who made us all. By that measure Father Sammon's entire life is an act of worship.

In his life Father Sammon worked on the side of the angels. Now he is with them. Thanks be to God.



IN HONOR OF GENEVIEVE  
KRUEGER, RECIPIENT OF THE  
2002 MCGROARTY POETRY AWARD

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Genevieve Krueger, who will receive the 2002 McGroarty Poetry Award at the Shouting Coyote Poetry Festival on April 20, 2002 at Verdugo Hills High School in Sunland Tujunga, in California's 27th Congressional District. Each year, this award is given to an individual who demonstrates extraordinary community service and tireless efforts toward the advancement of the literary arts.

Twenty-four years ago, Ms. Krueger began an out-of-print book search business. She knew that her love of reading and literature would serve her customers well as she searched the country for great works of art no longer in print. In doing so, she set herself out as a devotee of the process of good writing and the need to share that writing with the world. She is also an avid book collector, with a personal collection of more than 15,000 volumes, and volunteers her time with the Friends of the Library.

In 1984, she befriended a group enrolled in a poetry workshop at the McGroarty Arts Center in Sunland Tujunga, California. The class disbanded after several sessions, and, recognizing the need for writer collaboration, Ms. Krueger invited the group to her home. What began as a workshop became a weekly writers group and for sixteen years now, writers have been welcome at Ms. Krueger's home to share their thoughts and their work.

The group named themselves the Chuparosa Writers after the private home, Rancho Chupa Rosa, of California Poet Laureate, Congressman, dramatist, Los Angeles Times columnist, and historian John Steven McGroarty (1862–1944) and his wife Ida. Today, the private home is the McGroarty Arts Center and the annual McGroarty Poetry Award honors the legacy of John Steven McGroarty, a legacy that lives on in the work of the Chuparosa Writers and of Genevieve Krueger.

The Chuparosa Writers meet each Wednesday to share their work and foster the works of an ever-changing group of writers and poetry lovers. They have helped sponsor poetry contests for elementary schools, performed numerous poetry readings as individuals and as a group, taught poetry classes to schoolchildren, assisted in creating the Poet Laureate position for Sunland Tujunga and supported countless community endeavors.

Ms. Krueger eloquently states the purpose of the group: "We meet to share new discoveries, and work-in-progress. Through our meetings we stimulate new ideas and growth, and we hope to spread the message that writing is an important and enriching activity." For her commitment to bringing the arts to a wider audience, to the literary tradition of the foothills and to new discoveries, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Genevieve Krueger upon receiving the 2002 McGroarty Poetry Award.

### BLACK LUNG BENEFITS SURVIVORS EQUITY ACT

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation aimed at providing equity in the treatment of benefits for eligible survivors of recipients of black lung benefits. Joining me in introducing this measure is the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Education and Workforce, GEORGE MILLER of California, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania, JOHN MURTHA.

By way of background, in 1981 the Black Lung Benefits Act was amended in several respects at the urging of the Reagan Administration. The driving motivation for this legislation at the time was to shore up the finances of the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund through which benefit payments are made to beneficiaries where mine employment terminated prior to 1970, or where no mine operator can be assigned liability.

After the enactment of this legislation, administrative actions and a number of extremely harmful court decisions made it extremely difficult, if not almost impossible, for those suffering from the crippling disease of black lung to qualify for benefits. However, today, a large number of the problems claimants faced have been remedied by a Clinton Administration rulemaking that was finalized on December 20, 2000.

Yet, two provisions of the 1981 Act in particular continue to be most troublesome, and largely impact, in a very adverse way, surviving widows of coal miners who die as a result of black lung disease.

As it now stands, due to the 1981 amendments, there is a dual and inequitable standard governing how benefits are handled for surviving spouses of deceased beneficiaries. In the event a beneficiary died prior to January 1, 1982—the effective date of the 1981 Act—benefits continued uninterrupted to the surviving spouse. However, if the beneficiary dies after January 1, 1982, the surviving spouse must file a new claim in order to try to continue receiving the benefits and must prove that the miner died as a result of black lung disease despite the fact that the miner was already deemed eligible to receive benefits prior to death. This is illogical, unfair and outlandish.

In addition, as a result of the 1981 law, there is also a dual and inequitable standard governing the basis by which a miner or his widow is entitled to benefits under the Act. For pre-1981 Act claimants, a rebuttable presumption of the existence of black lung disease is established if the miner worked for 15 years or more in underground coal mines and if over evidence, such as an X-ray, demonstrates the existence of a total disability respiratory or pulmonary impairment. This rebuttable presumption, however, does not apply to post-1981 Act claimants.

The legislation I am introducing today removes the requirement that a surviving spouse must refile a claim in order to continue receiving benefits. It also applies the rebuttable presumption of black lung disease for pre-1981 Act claimants to those filed after the effective date of that statute.

This is a fair and just proposal, and one which should have been enacted years ago. In fact, I have introduced various black lung bills since 1988. During the early 1990s the House of Representatives on two occasions passed reform legislation. Much of what was contained in these comprehensive reform bills was finally addressed by the Clinton-era rulemaking. However, the subject matter of the bill I am introducing today demands action by the Congress. I urge the leadership of this body to consider this matter, and to allow this bill to be acted upon this year.

### IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES E. ROBINSON

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the future of our country is indeed our children and a man being honored tonight, James E. Robinson, is someone who believes that helping them is the highest calling. James Robinson is a founder of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Adults Club. In that capacity for the past 11 years he has worked with and inspired more than 500 young people.

Mr. Robinson also served as the Head Coach for baseball and junior varsity basketball at the Alexander Hamilton High School in Elmsford while also serving as Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach there. He has also worked with the young people Mercy College while serving as Assistant Men's Basketball Coach.

But his community service is not limited to coaching our youth. He has served on numerous committees including the United Way Youth Advisory Council, the Westchester Community College Advisory Council, the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Committee, and the African American Men of Westchester where he is chair of the Youth Committee.

Mr. Robinson is also co-founder and President of Fathers and Children Together (FACT), an organization of more than 70 fathers from nine different locales in Westchester.

He lives in Greenburgh with his wife, Yolanda, and their three children, Nicole, 8, and twins Jasmine and James, Jr. 6. He is someone whose gifts will keep giving to the community for many generations. For every child he helps will certainly go on to help others of their own generation and the next. We can truly say that he has made his community a better place, and for this we are all grateful.

### TRIBUTE TO THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH BY ALBERT CAREY CASWELL

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of the late Reverend Martin Luther



King Jr., who was assassinated thirty-four years ago on April 4, 1968. Dr. King's short life was spent and lost in the pursuit of justice and equality for all men, regardless of gender, creed or race. His life was a testament to the fact that we can effect profound changes in our laws and society through peaceful and non-violent means. Dr. King's spirit will forever live on in our collective continuous efforts to uphold human rights for all people, a cause that is particularly dear to my heart.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD, a poetic tribute to Dr. King, composed by Albert "Bert" Carey Caswell. Bert Caswell received a Masters degree in education and taught science in our nation's public schools. He currently works as a tour guide at the United States Capitol. He is an enthusiastic guide in this great building, and he particularly enjoys the opportunity to provide tours for children from the "Make-A-Wish" Foundation, as well as all other children. He has also given tours for some of our country's fire fighters who suffered severe burns while saving lives and protecting property. When he guides visitors in our nation's Capitol, he also makes a point of sharing inspiring stories of Members of Congress who have overcome difficulties and hardships in life, to serve in one of the highest offices of trust and responsibility which the citizens of our land can offer.

A KING AMONG MEN  
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

What is a king? But a man who sits upon a throne,  
Who by birthright, bloodline and good fortune, is born of a royal home  
As is so within our earthly zone,  
While up in heaven real kings and queens, in our Lord's eyes are those who stand alone—  
A man of peace, a man of love, who will lay down his life leaving all he loves—shall sit high atop our Lord's throne.  
A day in August 1963,  
As a "King Among Men" would write history  
As our nation heard of this, his great dream to be.  
Speaking to all upon a mall,  
of the dream he saw, as a nation awoke to freedoms call,  
as heaven awaited him Godspeed.  
His words now etched upon our minds,  
To this day as we hear them tears we find,  
Words ringing throughout time and history  
On this great day of freedom and of peace,  
The defining moment in a nation's civil rights movement to say the least,  
As they traveled from far and wide,  
To hear freedom's cry, from all across this countryside,  
North, south, west and east.  
For freedom rang out loud that day,  
Yet, knowing he'd not see his children growing,  
Stayed and still he spoke of peace.  
In this our short lifetimes,  
How is one to measure or define?  
What is the true essence of man kind,  
In this, his lifetime?  
Men walk our earth, big and small,  
Black and white, short and tall,  
Rich and poor.  
How then the more can one measure and define?  
What is the true sum of a person's worth,  
here upon mother earth?  
The answer we find,  
Within one's deeds of a lifetime.

Generations have come and gone,  
As one in our hearts now lives ever on,  
As all realize this the more as Martin is gone.

In this our sweet "country tis' of thee,"  
A man rose up a king to be,  
A true son of liberty  
For his life's work lives on.

Reverend Dr. King,  
As across this nation, let freedom ring,  
As his courage and spirit would help to sing  
A new day's dawn!

Equality for all, as he'd create,  
As straight up to heaven for his life's work  
his fate

As heaven could not wait.  
Martin's dream, a world devoid of hate,  
Where black and white children would relate,

This clarion call his golden fate.  
Now, up in our Lord's kingdom on high,  
His place found in heaven so divine,  
All because he preached love, not hate.

This man of God,  
Who to our nation and to our world had so taught to all  
Of love and freedom as he had preached.

A minister of God,  
A reverend for the Lord, the prince of peace,  
As out to all Martin, His envoy, had so reached.

His message strong, his message beautiful and sweet,  
Non-violence in the fight for equality, as to all he'd beseech.

A beautiful man, a prince of peace, a Nobel Peace Prize he reached,  
A heart of gold inside, as he battled all the lies.

An educated man, who's dream of justice for all was his life's plan.  
His vision was not forsaken, even as he died  
Traveling across our nation far and wide  
To preach peace and love to all, he strived,  
As one man helped turned the tide.

Marching north to south, hand in hand,  
Praying and championing equality time and again,

All led by this courageous man  
Freedom fighters, who upon buses chose  
To stand tall against the racism they opposed.

As their courage would stand  
In his heart a great burning,  
His desire for equality and dignity for all were his life's yearning,  
Spreading across the land.

Marching down city streets,  
Armed with only courage,  
As hate and bigotry they would meet,  
So liberty could stand.  
Beaten, bloodied and arrested time and again  
His beautiful message they could not put to an end.

They tried to take his freedom away,  
Inflicting pain in every way,  
As his freedom train traveled far across our land.

Our nation torn, weary and worn,  
Fighting in a far off war  
As his message scored,  
Was so simple and so very pure:  
Nonviolence and dignity,  
The love of fellow woman and man  
And to be free. Justice our Lord's plan,  
He helped insure.  
Up in heaven on those dark days of hate,  
Our Lord watched and stood proud of the freedom he'd create,  
and his spirit endured.

Then that dreaded day,  
As shots rang out in Memphis taking our breath away,  
As a nation wept on her darkest day

As all who knew of his true worth,  
Understood the great blessings to our mother earth

His life conveyed.

A monumental loss;  
To our nation the greatest of all costs  
Tears flowing,  
As all knowing  
A hero was lost this day.

We live in a far better world today,  
All because of our great American hero,  
This king among men who showed the way!  
His way of love, his way of peace,  
His road to equality beseeched,  
Leading us to love and peace,  
As the course he stayed.

Stop this day and look around,  
Before you now as is found  
Our far better world of now,  
All for our children today.

Still, his great works are not done,  
Look around you. The battle against racism is a long hard fought one.

Those seeds of freedom he had sown,  
All planted by our great American hero,  
have grown, from his dream begun.  
"I've been to the mountain top and I've looked down,"

A bright future for our children he found,  
As he saw a rising sun.

"Free At Last" in the kingdom of our Lord.  
Let it be told,  
Where hearts of pure gold

Up to heaven shall surely pass,  
Forever upon this earth, this wonderful man in history shall come first

As "A King Among Men" as his dye is cast  
In our Lord's eye he is "A King Among Men,"

There in our hearts ever a hero and a true friend,  
to worship from the past.

Today, walking with child in hand,  
Respect and ever honor this blessed man  
For our world, this hero would transcend.  
His gift was great my friend,  
As a far better world devoid of hate  
From earth and heaven to our children he would send.

Upon a mall  
Close your eyes and recall,  
Listen still we hear his words of freedom ring

"I Have A Dream"—A King, Among Men.

To The Entire King Family and to Our Great American Hero, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, May Our Lord Bless you.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 91, on the motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 92. H. Res. 92, on final passage of H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ANNA RADU

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Anna Radu was born on March 8, 1902; and Whereas, Anna Radu is celebrating her 100th Birthday today; and

Whereas, Anna Radu, from Garbova, Romania, became a citizen of the United States of America on September 8, 1939;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Anna Radu as she celebrates her 100th Birthday.

HONORING STAN BLEDSOE

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stan Bledsoe on the occasion of his retirement as head baseball coach at Clovis West High School in Fresno, California. Clovis West, in conjunction with Clovis Unified School District, is dedicating and naming the baseball field at Eagle Stadium "Stan Bledsoe Field."

This 2001–2002 baseball season will cap Bledsoe's twenty-three year stint as head coach of the Eagles and thirty-two years of service coaching athletes and training coaches. There has been only one other head coach in the history of Clovis West. Stan has supported and been a mentor of the summer baseball program in the Clovis West area since its inception. His dedication to the athletes at Clovis West cannot be measured.

Coach Bledsoe has also been active in education and administration for the high school. He has been a valuable asset to the physical education department and has served in athletic administration for the past four years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stan Bledsoe for his service to the Clovis West community and honor him as he retires as head baseball coach. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his dedication to education and athletics and wishing him many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY PHILLIPS,  
U.S. MERCHANT MARINE

**HON. SONNY CALLAHAN**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to fellow Alabamian Henry Phillips, a merchant mariner, member of the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, and educator. This month, Henry will hang up his boiler suit one last time and retire after nearly 30 years of involvement with the U.S. Merchant Marine, most recently as director of the Calhoon MEBA Engineering School.

Henry is himself a 1972 graduate of the MEBA School. He is the first alumnus ap-

pointed director of the school, the country's premier institution of maritime continuing education. After graduation, Henry became a member of the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA), the nation's oldest maritime union. Henry began a long and rewarding career in the Merchant Marine sailing as chief engineer with a number of U.S. flag companies including Keystone Shipping, U.S. Lines, and most recently with Sea-Land.

In January 2000, Henry Phillips left the deck plates for good, having been appointed director of the Calhoon MEBA Engineering School in Easton, Maryland. Henry's combination of real world experience at sea and his participation in establishing the Calhoon School's instrumentation course in the 1990's prepared him for the responsibility and complexities of running a world-class maritime educational facility. The school, a joint labor-management operation, ensures that America's Fourth Arm of Defense—the U.S. Merchant Marine—is well stocked with professional engineers and deck officers in the event our country is in conflict.

Henry and his wife Margaret are residents of Daphne, Alabama. Both their children, Bubba (Henry, Jr.) and Elizabeth are attending college. Henry plans to return there, run a small business, and spend time with his family.

Both inside and outside the maritime community, Henry is known for his keen wit and humble manner. I had the opportunity to spend some time with Henry on a flight from Alabama to Washington earlier this year. We talked about the health of our Merchant Marine and its importance to our country's security. And of course we talked about retiring from the work we love and our eagerness to move back to Alabama to be with family and friends.

Henry rose to the pinnacle of his profession after a career spanning three decades of involvement in the Merchant Marine. He made lasting contributions to his union's school, improving the curriculum and enhancing its professional standing. Henry is an exceptional person and first-class marine officer. Mr. Speaker, my Congressional colleagues, please join me in thanking Henry Phillips for his service to America's Merchant Marine.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CONNECTICUT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 2002 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Women's Basketball National Champions, the University of Connecticut Huskies. On Sunday, March 31, the Lady Huskies completed their perfect season with an 82–70 victory over the Oklahoma Sooners, finishing with a record of 39–0.

Of the five starters, four of them were seniors: Sue Bird, Swin Cash, Tamika Williams, and Asjha Jones. Over their four years at the University of Connecticut, the team had a record of 136–9, made three Final Fours, and

won two National Championships. They were only the fourth team in women's college basketball history to complete a season undefeated, tying the record for the most wins in a season. The team had an average margin of victory of 35.4 points and never trailed in the second half of a basketball game.

Members of team won various awards this season. Senior Sue Bird won the Wade Trophy for National Women's Player of the Year, Naismith Player of the Year, and was selected for AP First Team All-America Honors. Swin Cash and sophomore Diana Taurasi were selected to the All-America Second Team, Asjha Jones made the All-America Third Team, and Tamika Williams received Honorable Mention All-America. Coach Geno Auriemma was selected as Naismith Coach of the Year and 2002 Russell Athletic/WBCA Division I National Coach of the Year.

Commentators for women's college basketball claim that this Husky basketball team is the best team in the history of women's college basketball. While the Huskies tend to shy away from that statement, opponents tend to agree with those in the media. I believe the ultimate compliment was paid to this team when Pat Summitt, coach of the Tennessee Lady Vols, an archrival of the Huskies, responded if she was relieved to see these four seniors graduating by saying: "[Geno's] done a great job with them and they're big play people all across the board. And what I really admire about this Connecticut team is how hard they play and how inspired they are in every possession. I did not recall seeing a player not play hard every possession. And that speaks for their character and what they brought to the court tonight against us. But I may go to the graduation and cheer. You think they'll let me go? I might be there."

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the UConn Lady Husky basketball team. The entire State of Connecticut is proud of the Husky team, who has helped turn Connecticut into the center of women's college basketball. I would also like to extend my best wishes to the four graduating seniors, and I am confident that they will be successful in their future endeavors.

I am also submitting for the RECORD an article by Randy Smith of the Journal Inquirer, who captured the essence of the team and their outstanding coaches.

[From the Journal Inquirer, Apr. 8, 2002]

AWAY FROM ARENA, ALL BETS OFF FOR  
HUSKIES

(By Randy Smith)

There are many beautiful elements attached to the University of Connecticut women's basketball program, but none is more essential. That is the first stone upon which everything else has been built. When a young basketball player honors the game, she, in turn, honors herself and the uniform she wears.

As soon as players step over the lines and away from the arena, all bets are off.

UConn's undefeated national champions took swipes at one another and laughed their way around the streets of Hartford during a parade Saturday, witnessed by throngs of people estimated at 150,000. When Diana Taurasi egged on the crowd while coach Geno Auriemma was trying to speak at the state capitol, he wondered aloud if the WNBA could make an exception and draft Taurasi, say, in the next five minutes. The crowd boomed.

The energy these people emit is contagious. They are constantly on the go. They

smiled and waved and signed autographs and said thank you a million times. The spotlight agrees with them. Lord knows, they earned it. They played hard, had fun, and won 'em all.

Stop and think. When was the last time you did anything successfully 39 times in a row? I'm not sure if I could count from one to 39 successfully 39 straight times. I'm bound to skip, say, a 23.

The first thing Auriemma did, it's worth remembering, was thank his staff. Because of his position and the power of his personality, he is the main character in all of this, but couldn't be who he is or do what he does without a strong supporting cast. Associate head coach Chris Dailey has worked alongside him for 17 years. She is as demanding as he is, and sometimes, even more so. A diligent sentry who stands guard on the whole concept of "Connecticut basketball," Dailey is part-coach, part-educator, and part-den mother. Problems, big or small, go through her. Tonya Cardoza, in her eighth year, and Jamelle Elliott, in her fifth, are bright and tireless.

The closer one gets to the women's program, he is struck by two revelations: how good they are at playing the game of basketball and how much fun they seem to have together both on and off the court. The team's signature is a smile.

Auriemma hinted that Hartford's fourth parade in eight years—three for women's national champions and one for UConn's men—may not be the last.

"My guess is we might be here again down the road," he said.

If there is another shindig at the Capitol, organizers would be wise to get a smaller podium or a taller coach. The only people who could see Auriemma were behind him. Those in the bleacher seats probably thought they were listening to the voice of God, although chants of "Geno, Geno" indicated otherwise.

This year, he was Cortez in Mexico. Upon landing there, the 16th-century Spanish conqueror burned all ships to send a message to his troops that there was no turning back. In a town built, in large part, on remembering the Alamo, Auriemma instructed his team to remember St. Louis and last year's loss to Notre Dame in a national semifinal game. After eliminating Tennessee and reaching the national championship game, Auriemma delivered a Cortez-like message to his team in San Antonio.

"I told them about Mt. Everest," he said. "in the last 500 yards, everybody dies."

The thought made him roll his eyes.

"Man, you've got to keep coming up with things," he said.

Auriemma was guilty of coaches-speak when he said there was no pressure on UConn to win. Part of a coach's job is to absorb as much pressure as he can and prevent it from seeping into his team's locker room. Auriemma is good at it. Before the Tennessee game, he said, "I'm the most nervous man in America." Before meeting Oklahoma in the national title game, he openly worried that fate and the elements might be conspiring against UConn. He understood that there was only one way out for this senior-laden group. They had to win them all.

Knockers were everywhere, ready to pounce. Kelli Anderson wrote, "UConn is a perennial favorite that has won just one title in the last six years," in the March 18th edition of Sports Illustrated. How's that for revisionist history? Presumably, a half-dozen or more editors read the copy without bothering to change it. UConn had won two titles in seven years and now has won three titles in eight, finishing undefeated twice. The Huskies sure went from 1-of-6 to 3-of-8 in an awful hurry, didn't they?

Like most of his players, Auriemma enjoys his time on a national stage.

"We're ready, that's all I can tell you," he said upon arrival in San Antonio.

"Players decide games" and "I'm always amazed when players do what I tell them" were a couple of his other nuggets. He relishes his time with media and rarely holds anything back.

"My biggest strength is I give you guys a lot to write about and my biggest weakness is I give you guys a lot to write about," he said. "Like a lot of people, my greatest strength is my greatest weakness."

Connecticut state troopers shaded the rules by getting autographs at a third-floor press conference in the Capitol after the parade. Players signed the inside brims of their hats. If a chief back at the barracks asked the troopers to remove their hats to show him how they had spent their day, there would have been a whole of pump-faking going on.

Hartford police, meanwhile, walked the women's team from the capitol, underneath the Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch to the P-3 level of the Civic Center to watch the Phoenix WBCA All-America High School Game. Try as they did to sneak in the back door, the women were greeted by a standing ovation from more than 10,000 fans.

Applause wanes. Appreciation of a 39-0 national champion team never will. And neither will those jabs that seem to keep everybody in place and everything in its proper order.

"I've been around Geno for 17 years," Dailey said. "I don't think he's funny, charming, or good-looking. And you can quote me."

Nothing is sacred except the game.

#### 44TH ANNUAL LOYALTY DAY

#### HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our 44th annual Loyalty Day, which is celebrated on May 1. On this day, let us reflect with pride on our great country and remember with gratitude the contributions of the many loyal and courageous Americans; such as fire fighters, law enforcement officers, community service leaders, and military personnel who have given so much of themselves both at home and around the world to preserve our freedom.

Although we don't know the exact start of Loyalty Day, it did start in the 1930s as a counteractant of the May Day Communist exhibition. The Public Law 85-529 was signed by President Eisenhower in 1958 to officially commemorate this special day. Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars thought that these "disruptive forces of the communism" needed to see that the loyalty of Americans could not be uprooted so easily. They decided that they would organize parades and ceremonies, with other patriotic organizations joining in. With an extensive letter-writing campaign, and the help of the speaker's bureaus the theme of loyalty of Americans began to mold into something. Plays and tours of our national shrines aided this. The motto is to instill the ideals of our founding fathers to "remain loyal to America". Indeed, it is a day; meant for making all of us in America feel proud of our country. The country to which we belong.

Join me and the members of The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, George

O. Breece Post 401 in recognition of Loyalty Day 2002.

#### UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. This legislation takes a common sense approach to reduce nutrient and sediment loss in the Upper Mississippi watershed by coordinating existing public and private water monitoring initiatives. I believe that such a partnership promotes the river's health and is beneficial the communities and people of eastern Iowa.

Most of the farm families I represent live and make their living either along the Mississippi, or its many tributaries. Soil erosion is a problem for farmers by reducing long-term sustainability and income potential of their acres. It is my understanding that farmers in the Upper Mississippi River Basin lose more than \$300 million annually in applied nitrogen to soil erosion. In addition, sediment fills the main shipping channel of the Mississippi that family farmers depend on to get their commodities to markets.

Farmers live close to the land, and are committed to being good stewards. This legislation helps farmers and local conservation groups assess where problems are occurring in their watershed, and how to efficiently and effectively solve the problem.

I believe this legislation is beneficial in mending our environment along the river, and better protecting it in the future. Sediment is a threat to the Mississippi's fish, birds, and other wildlife by filling wetlands. Sediment reduces wetlands' ability to be an adequate water filter and provide habitat to the creatures that live all along the Mississippi River. It is estimated that the Upper Mississippi contributes 31 percent of the nitrogen that impairs the water quality of the Lower Mississippi basin.

Part of the Upper Mississippi Wildlife Refuge is in my district. I believe this refuge is an important treasure for Iowa. What makes this area special is, of course, the unique wildlife that lives there. This legislation helps promote wildlife by monitoring and computer modeling data to ensure scientifically sound and cost-effective decisions in promoting water quality.

Additionally, a healthy Mississippi River is very important to the communities of eastern Iowa. The Mississippi is recognized throughout the United States and abroad as "America's River". The Quad Cities area is a popular destination of international travelers who want to see and touch the water. For the residents of the Quad Cities area, the riverfront is the center of social life, with a historic district, baseball diamond, and several annually held festivals.

The city of Dubuque boasts over one million visitors thanks to the Mississippi. This community has chosen to make its story of the river the cornerstone of its urban renewal with a million dollar investment in the revitalization of the riverfront. The America's River project and historic Port of Dubuque represent the community's dedication to growing its tourism industry.

Mr. Speaker, the Upper Mississippi's health and water quality essential to growing the economies of the larger river cities of Bettendorf, Davenport, Clinton, and Dubuque, and the picturesque river towns of Guttenberg, LeClair, Bellevue, and Marquette. All of these communities, along with farmers and conservationists, have invested much time and effort in promoting a clean river. I believe this legislation helps to insure these investments by coordinating the many interests of those living in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Accordingly, I am a proud sponsor of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING SERGEANT WAYNE  
SEITA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Wayne Seita for receiving the 2002 Police Personnel of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce.

Sergeant Seita joined the Sanger Police Department on January 27, 1975, and was named permanent sergeant on July 1, 1990. Sergeant Seita's colleagues refer to him as a professional, moral, ethical and nonbiased person. His ability to maintain the work schedule for patrol, without any complaints, is enough to deserve a commendation alone. In May of 2000, Wayne was wounded while responding to a call of a wanted suspect with a firearm. Thankfully, Sergeant Seita was able to recuperate and return to work after a short time. Nothing could stand in the way of him protecting the citizens of Sanger and discharging his duties as a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Wayne Seita for his dedication and contributions to the Sanger Police Department. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Wayne for his exceptional service to the community of Sanger and wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING  
OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
CONSULATE OF THE SLOVAK RE-  
PUBLIC

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the official opening of the Northern California Consulate of the Slovak Republic in Walnut Creek, CA.

The Slovak Republic became a free and independent Republic in January 1993, and in June 2001, opened their new embassy in Washington, DC. The Slovak people are determined in their quest for liberty, dignity, and cultural and economic independence.

The United States continues to be the beneficiary of the work, sacrifice, and patriotism of citizens of Slovak heritage, who have earned recognition and respect throughout our land,

including the agricultural fields and the technological and academic centers in California.

Barbara Pivnicka, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic in northern California, was appointed in June 2001 by Eduard Kukan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, with approval by the U.S. State Department, to establish a Consulate of the Slovak Republic in California.

I am pleased that the Honorable Martin Butora, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the United States, and his wife, Dr. Zora Butorova, are visiting the San Francisco Bay Area this month for the purpose of officially opening the Consulate of the Slovak Republic in San Francisco.

A number of activities and celebratory events are taking place in recognition of the opening of the Consulate and the visit by the Slovak Ambassador, including a reception at the Fairmont Hotel on the day of the official opening.

It is an honor for me to welcome Ambassador Butora and Dr. Butorova to northern California, and to congratulate and welcome the Consulate of the Slovak Republic to northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the efforts of the many Slovak and American citizens in making this opening possible. This Consulate will be a tremendous asset to people of the Slovak Republic and the United States.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN  
PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3480, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. I'd like to thank Mr. KIND, my colleague on the Upper Mississippi River Task Force for all his hard work on this legislation.

The Upper Mississippi River Basin has a significant problem with sediment, which has a variety of harmful effects. Sediment is directly linked to soil erosion, which is harmful to the family farmer. It creates a need for over \$100 million each year in dredging of the main shipping channel of the Mississippi River. Sediment fills wetlands and impacts recreation and tourism on the Mississippi. While the problems of sedimentation are documented, there is inadequate scientific data on the amounts and sources of sediment and nutrients flowing into the River basin because local, state and federal efforts are not coordinated.

This legislation develops a coordinated public-private approach to reducing nutrient and sediment losses in the Upper Mississippi River basin. The bill establishes a water quality monitoring network and an integrated computer-modeling program using information gathered from existing federal, state and local programs. This data will provide the baseline numbers needed to make scientifically sound and cost-effective decisions.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation which will help alleviate the problems of sedimentation and nutrient loss that are common in the

Upper Mississippi River Basin. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUTS' 90TH  
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Girl Scouts USA. For ninety years, Girl Scouts has inspired girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. It helps both young girls and adults develop qualities that will serve them all their lives—like strong values, a social conscience and conviction about their own potential and self-worth.

Girl Scouts strengthen our country by developing future female leaders. They offer a broad range of activities that address today's interests and tomorrow's role as women. Girl Scouts learn a wide range of real life skills—first aid, resume writing, and managing money—as well as reap the benefits that are less quantifiable, including enhanced self esteem, greater confidence in their abilities, and the strength and conviction to lead and excel in their endeavors. All of this is accomplished while constantly striving to reach their three goals: values, leadership and diversity.

Girl Scouts USA serves over 2.7 million girls across the country. They are a shining example of what society can be if we focus on teaching values to future generations. I congratulate Girl Scouts on their 90th anniversary, thank them for developing solid citizens, and wish them well in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CORRINE GUNTHER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a truly outstanding individual, my constituent, Corrine Gunther of Morristown. On April 16, Corrine's friends and family will honor her contributions and accomplishments as The Zonta Club of Morristown presents her with the "Woman of the Year" award.

Corrine Gunther was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She went on to attend Oberlin College and obtained a degree in English and Anthropology. She used her education to become a teacher and taught first grade at a school in Long Island, where she also coached field hockey, lacrosse and basketball. Later, Corrine served as a Research Associate for a Federal grant at Fairleigh Dickinson University on a volunteerism in government project, and changed careers again to become Executive Director of the Visiting Health Service of Morris County where she served for fourteen years.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Corrine has served her communities as a volunteer in a multitude of ways. Throughout her years of service she has served as the

Chairman of the N.J. Home Care Committee for the White House Conference on Aging; as Vice Chairman of the Human Services Advisory Council; as a Board Member of First Call for Help, an information and referral service; and as a peer reviewer for the National Home Care Council. Corrine was also past President of NORWESCAP, an umbrella agency for five counties, overseeing 54 action service programs; past President of the League of Women Voters of the Morris Area and the Morris County League; and also as a charter member and past President of The Human Services Association of Morris County.

Corrine Gunther has been a member of The Zonta Club of Morristown for the last twenty six years and is a past President. Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of women executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Corrine for all of her past achievements and hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating her on her honor, and all of the accomplishments and service she has performed throughout her life!

#### RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEES OF ARTHUR ANDERSEN

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 26,000 employees of Arthur Andersen who are facing great uncertainty as the Department of Justice pursues its federal obstruction of justice charges. In the State of Connecticut, Andersen employs more than 500 and in my District, over 300 are employed in the Hartford office. These hard-working employees are facing the possibility of layoffs and general insecurity about the future of the company to whom they have dedicated themselves.

Walking around Capitol Hill, I have witnessed the sea of yellow shirts that signify the faithful Andersen employees who are pleading their innocence. I have met face-to-face with the Andersen employees in my District and I am impressed by their loyalty and resolve. These employees have done nothing but come to work everyday and perform their duties. Despite their uncertain future, they still do. I could understand why they might feel betrayed by a select few who made poor decisions in a city two thousand miles away. However, they still serve their customers with the same professionalism as they did before Enron became a household name.

I would like to offer my praise to Hartford's Andersen office for being a solid corporate citizen in our community. Employees proudly proclaim that they donated nearly \$100,000 last year to the United Way, contributed to Hartford's "Dress for Success" program to provide professional attire to those moving from welfare to work, volunteered on two Habitat for Humanity projects, and gave \$160,000 to local civic organizations. Their thankless contributions should now be recognized.

I wish that I could offer Andersen employees my assurances that their jobs will be safe and their company will rebound. However, I

can offer my support and encouragement for work well done in good times and bad. I can offer my thanks for charitable contributions to our community. And I can ask my colleagues to join me in this endeavor and reach out to the innocent Andersen employees in their districts. Let them know that their hard work is appreciated and that their community will not abandon them during this difficult period.

#### HONORING BOB AND JOAN HINES

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob and Joan Hines for receiving the 2002 Mr. and Mrs. Farmer of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce.

Bob received a degree in agronomy from California State University, Fresno, and became an agronomist for J.G. Boswell Company in 1957. He left J.G. Boswell Company in 1961 and became manager of the Clovis-Sanger Cooperative (cotton) Gin. He was chosen by the Agricultural Council of California to be "Co-op" Man of the Year in 1997. Mr. Hines also served as Director of both the Federal Farm Credit System and of the Allied Grape Growers.

Joan made contributions through her church as an elder, Sunday school instructor, and Youth Club Worker. She was a 4-H leader, a member of the Parents' Club, and of the PTA. Mrs. Hines is a charter member of Los Rancheros Valley Children's Hospital Guild, Clovis Branch, and of the Fresno Kings Cattle Women Organization. Both Joan and Bob have been citrus and grape growers along the Kings River and Trimmer Springs area near Sanger. Together, they have made enormous contributions to their community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob and Joan Hines, for their dedication to agriculture and the community. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Bob and Joan for their tremendous community service and wishing them many more years of continued success.

#### PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RE- PUBLIC OF CYPRUS

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this week, we welcome a distinguished visitor to our nation's capital: the Honorable Demetris Christofias, President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus.

Mr. Christofias began his trip to the U.S. late last week with a stop in New York, where he paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th. Visiting Ground Zero, where the World Trade Center had stood, Mr. Christofias condemned all terrorist attacks, and reaffirmed Cyprus' support in the fight against terrorism.

During his visit to Washington, Mr. Christofias will be meeting with Members of

Congress, top Administration officials, other key policy makers, and leaders of the Cypriot-American community. As elected representatives who serve in this great Body, it is a privilege to receive visits from our counterparts serving in the legislative bodies of other countries—particularly when the visitor represents a country with which we enjoy very friendly relations, have so much in common and in which we have so many important interests.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Demetris Christofias was elected President of the House of Representatives on June 7, 2001. Based on the 1960 Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the President of the House of Representatives performs the duties of the President of the Republic in the event of a temporary absence or incapacity of the President. He is also President of the Executive Committee on Selection, and President of the Executive Committees of the groups representing Cyprus in the Inter-parliamentary Union and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. He is also a member of the National Council, a supreme advisory body to the President of the Republic.

Representative Christofias was first elected as a member of the House of Representatives in 1991, and was subsequently re-elected in 1996 and 2001. He was born on August 29, 1946, in the village of Dhikomo of the district of Kyrenia, an area under military occupation by Turkey since 1974. From a very young age, he has been active in political and civic organizations in Cyprus. He now lives in Nicosia and is married to Elsie Chiratou. They have two daughters and a son.

Mr. Speaker, the Republic of Cyprus is an important friend and partner of the United States. Our countries share a commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets and the ideal and practice of equal justice under law.

The Republic of Cyprus also stands with the United States and the rest of the civilized world in the war against international terrorism. Within hours of the terrorist attacks of September 11, Cypriot leaders expressed their strong condemnation of the acts, their solidarity with the American people, and their commitment to working with the United States in the ongoing campaign against terrorism on many fronts. Since then, Cyprus has taken many substantive steps as part of the coalition against terrorism, including giving blanket clearances for U.S. military aircraft to fly over Cyprus and use its airports, sharing intelligence with and providing legal assistance to U.S. agencies, and increasing security at sea-ports, airports and the American Embassy in Cyprus's capital, Nicosia. Cyprus has also implemented UN Security Council Resolution 1373 to freeze bank accounts and other assets of terrorists and their supporters, ratified and implemented the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, and is conducting investigations to determine if individuals or organizations named in President Bush's Executive Order hold assets in Cyprus, with a goal toward freezing those assets.

Mr. Speaker, the future for the Republic of Cyprus looks extremely bright. Cyprus is currently considered a leading candidate country to join the European Union in the EU's next round of enlargement. The United States has strongly supported Cyprus's EU bid. EU membership will bring significant benefits to both

the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities, including new economic opportunities, access to new markets, a freer exchange of goods and services, balanced and sustainable development as well as the free movement of persons, goods, and services and capital.

But, regrettably, Mr. Speaker, despite its almost miraculous economic achievements, Cyprus must continue to endure the occupation of 37 percent of its territory by a hostile foreign power. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots, who fell victim to a policy of ethnic cleansing, were forcibly evicted from their homes and became refugees in their own country. Every year, on or about July 20, in what has become one of Congress's proudest traditions, Members of Congress rise to remember the anniversary of the Turkish invasion. Congress has also adopted Resolutions stating that the status quo in Cyprus is unacceptable, and calling for international efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem on the basis of international law. Administrations of both political parties have worked in support of the UN-sponsored peace process.

In recent months, hopes have been raised that a just and durable solution to the Cyprus problem can be reached. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Glafcos Clerides, has been holding direct talks with the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash, since the beginning of this year. The third round of these talks has resumed this month, with the UN Secretary General's Special Adviser for Cyprus overseeing the negotiations. I am confident that the leadership of the Republic of Cyprus will continue to negotiate in good faith until a comprehensive settlement is reached, as they have tried to do all along. I hope the Turkish Cypriot leadership will respond by putting aside its unreasonable and unacceptable demands, and negotiate in good faith.

The United States has a significant security, economic and moral interest in seeing that a settlement is achieved. The U.S. also supports Cyprus's accession to the EU. Indeed, it is to be hoped that the ongoing EU accession process for Cyprus—which will continue to advance whether or not a comprehensive settlement is reached—will help to lead to a comprehensive settlement.

Last year, a bipartisan Resolution was introduced in the House expressing the sense of Congress that security, reconciliation, and prosperity for all Cypriots can be best achieved within the context of membership in the European Union which will provide significant rights and obligations for all Cypriots, and for other purposes. That Resolution now has 73 co-sponsors, showing the strong support of this Body for Cyprus' accession to the EU.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in welcoming Representative Christofias to our capital and to our country.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD AND MARY HUNTER

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Richard and

Mary Hunter on celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary this April 10, 2002. This loving couple has lived in my district for over sixty years. I admire their immense devotion to each other. They embody true love and respect for each other.

Mary and Richard met at the Philadelphia Frankford Arsenal in my district. Mary worked as an assembly line supervisor while Richard worked as an armorer under her direction.

Their love flourished and after two years of courtship they married on April 10, 1942. After 60 years of marriage, Richard believes that Mary is still his supervisor. Shortly after their marriage, Mary continued working at the Armory. Richard went off to serve as a radio technician in World War II and assisted in the liberation of several concentration camps in Germany.

Richard and Mary went on to have four children: Rick, Randy, Maryann, and Pat. By way of their children, Richard and Mary now have eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren with another great grandchild on the way. I am proud to say that they are my constituents and to share their story with you. Richard and Mary are rare and special. They are living examples of endless and long-lasting love. I send them my tributes, my respect and my highest regards.

Mr. Speaker, our nation understands the value of strong families. Richard and Mary are an example to us all that love endures all things. I hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing their successful marriage and their 60 year Anniversary.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 3762, THE PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

#### HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act.

Enron employees lost over \$1 billion in retirement funds. Congress needs to pass legislation to help prevent this from ever happening again.

Unfortunately, H.R. 3762 does nothing to protect pension plans. This bill fails to give employees the right to sit on pension boards and manage their own retirement assets. 29 Enron executives dumped \$1.1 billion of their stock to avoid the losses faced by rank and file employees, but the bill fails to give employees notification when executives are dumping company stock. 85% of all employers with pension plans currently restrict their employee's ability to diversify, but the bill fails to allow employees to diversify their 401 (k) pension plans.

The Pension Security Act offers no protection for employees. It actually increases their risks. The bill will allow unqualified individuals to provide investment advice. These investment advisors may be connected with investment companies who benefit from the advice. Advisors should not receive financial rewards for recommending certain investments over others. This is a clear conflict of interest that will hurt an employee.

We should commit ourselves to giving employees the right to truly control their retire-

ment plans and give them the legal mechanisms for punishing those responsible for negligence and fraud. We must modernize ERISA so employees can be made whole and help ensure that average employees and corporate executives abide by the same rules.

The Democratic substitute does this by toughening criminal penalties for fiduciaries who violate workers' pension rights. It prohibits executives from dumping stock if the company's rank and file employees are prohibited from selling their stock due to a lockout. The Democratic substitute gives employees the right to diversify company-matched stock after 3 years, and it provides for independent financial advice for employees when company stock is offered as an investment option under a retirement plan.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the substitute and against H.R. 3762.

#### IN HONOR OF THE 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION

#### HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the United States Army 10th Mountain Division. This important division of infantry has always answered the call of our nation when we have been in need.

The 10th Mountain Division earned its fame during World War II, where it successfully captured several key German positions in Italy, including Reva Ridge and Mount Belvedere. In all, the division completely destroyed five elite German divisions, while suffering heavy casualties of 992 killed in action and 4,154 wounded. Training for these missions was done largely in Colorado and Utah's Park City Area.

Upon return from the war, many Veterans of the 10th Mountain Division entered private industry creating ski resorts, schools and magazines. Their love of skiing and its development in the Inter-Mountain West and specifically in Utah, contributed in a large way to Utah's effort to host the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Even today, the 10th Mountain Division continues to contribute to its country's security. Soldiers from the division were among the first to enter Afghanistan in an effort to search out Al Qaida strongholds and oust the Taliban Government.

The State of Utah has chosen to honor the 10th Mountain Division by naming a highway the 10th Mountain Division Memorial Highway. This section of road will be a testament to the scores of Utahns and others who have served their country in the Division.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women of the 10th Mountain Division have a tradition of heroism. I am proud to stand behind those who have served and those who are now serving a grateful nation.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ERNEST C.  
WITHERS

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to legendary photojournalist Mr. Ernest C. Withers. Born in Memphis, TN in 1922, Mr. Withers is renowned for his distinguished photographic record of the Civil Rights Movement in the South during the 1950's and 1960's. No other photographer created as complete a document of this movement as Withers did.

An important catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement, Withers helped to mobilize interest in the cause across the United States through his powerful images and writings. Withers often traveled with and photographed such legendary figures as Martin Luther King, Jr., Medgar Evers, Ralph Abernathy, and James Meredith. His unflinching visual records of these important individuals and critical events like the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955 and the assassination of King provide an insightful portrait of these landmark moments in American history.

During the struggle for civil rights, Mr. Withers photographed meetings, marches, sit-ins, and police crackdowns all across the South. As the movement erupted, Withers became fully engaged in capturing images which would appear in newspapers and magazines like Time and Newsweek, often uncredited. He noted, "I had a single sense of having to record what was going on. I look for things of time and value. None of my images deal in violence—they deal in time." Though he generally photographed without incident, at the funeral of Medgar Evers, highway patrolmen knocked his camera from his hands, destroying the film.

Because of his familiarity with the people and the geography of the segregated South, Mr. Withers was often the first or only photographer to capture momentous events as they unfolded long before the national press became interested.

Mr. Withers has photographed every major civil rights activist since the 1950's and said he could do an entire book of his photographs of Dr. King. The Massachusetts College of Art mounted an exhibition of Mr. Withers' civil rights photographs entitled "Let Us March On" that has toured the United States since 1992. He has photographed Memphis soul figures like Al Green, Isaac Hayes and Elvis Presley. He has photographed nearly every president from John F. Kennedy to Bill Clinton. He has also captured the innocence of Sunday school teachers, Little Leaguers, and waitresses in his photographs.

Furthermore, Mr. Withers has served his country and his community as an Army photographer in World War II and as one of the first nine African American police officers in Memphis.

Ernest Withers once said, "I was trained as a high school student in history, but I didn't know I would be recording the high multitude of imagery and history that I did record."

In 1998, Mr. Withers was inducted into the Black Press Hall of Fame. Please join me in honoring Mr. Withers as one of truly important and influential figures in our history.

IN TRIBUTE TO OUR FALLEN  
HERO: SHERIFF SAM CATRON OF  
PULASKI COUNTY, KENTUCKY

**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, a dedicated public servant and a soldier on the front lines of the fight against evil has been struck down—taken from us in a senseless but premeditated act of political assassination in my home county this past weekend.

Sheriff Sam Catron of Pulaski County, Kentucky, was shot and killed Saturday, April 13, by a cowardly assassin who fired a high-powered rifle from a camouflaged vantagepoint estimated to be some 100 yards away. He was killed instantly and fell just steps from friends, family and his elderly mother, Jennie Rachel Catron, who had accompanied him to an outdoor candidates-night gathering and fish fry at a rural volunteer fire station.

By Monday, very efficient and capable state and local investigators had arrested the alleged assassin and two alleged conspirators, including one of the sheriff's opponents in his race for reelection.

A particularly cruel irony is that the Sheriff's father was gunned down by an assassin in similar fashion as Somerset (county seat of Pulaski County) Chief of Police 38 years ago. Both shootings were in the presence of the Sheriff's mother and the Chief's wife.

Pulaski County Sheriff Sam Catron won election on his first attempt for the office in 1984. He had previously served as chief of police in Ferguson, Kentucky, and as a deputy sheriff in Pulaski County. He was a member of the City of Somerset-Pulaski County Rescue Squad, an Eagle Scout and a Kentucky Colonel. Ray Stoess, the former executive director of the Kentucky Sheriff's Association, says Sheriff Catron was perhaps the best Kentucky sheriff of the last 30 years. A former Sheriff of the Year in Kentucky, he was considered one of the hardest-working law officers in the state, often staying on the road until the early morning hours answering calls from citizens and investigating crimes.

A licensed pilot, Sheriff Catron performed his own helicopter searches for marijuana, helped other departments track suspects with the use of his police dog and he was even known to keep firefighting equipment in his vehicle so he could lend a hand in any kind of emergency. Sheriff Catron had recently cooperated with John Walsh of the TV program America's Most Wanted in an effort to track down a man wanted by police in Eastern Kentucky. Ironically, that episode of the program premiered on national television this past Saturday night, less than two hours after Sheriff Catron was gunned down.

Sheriff Catron loved being the chief law enforcement official of our county. He was a very capable lawman. But he also performed thousands of kindnesses to the people he dearly loved. As such, Sheriff Sam Catron is an example of a law officer who lived to serve the people he represented. He worked tirelessly for the citizens of Pulaski County, who today have a heavy heart, yet they are now relying on their deep wellspring of faith, their abiding sense of community, their loving families and their inner strength.

The people are trying to heal in many ways, including the spontaneous display of brown and yellow ribbons—colors worn by the members of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office who put their lives on the line each and every day.

But among the outpouring of heartfelt tributes, memorials and flowers, perhaps a hand lettered, red-white-and-blue sign spotted in the Pulaski County town of Ferguson said it best:

"Goodbye Sammy. We will miss you, our friend."

IN HONOR OF MYRON McKINNEY

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Myron McKinney on his 33 years of service to Empire District Electric Company. His exceptional career with Empire began on June 5, 1967 as a sales consultant and will end on April 30, 2002, as President and Chief Executive Officer of Empire.

Myron McKinney was the recipient of numerous awards, including Outstanding Citizen for 1999 by the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce. He was also the Outstanding Alumnus in 1997 for Bolivar High School, and in 2000, was voted Outstanding Alumnus for Missouri Southern State College.

Myron McKinney has served the Joplin area for many years by volunteering countless hours for local service clubs and community boards. He is a former president and board member for the Joplin United Way and the Jasper County Association for Social Services. Mr. McKinney is a Missouri State Chamber of Commerce Board Member and a former president and board member for the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce. He also served on the Joplin Business and Industrial Development as their chairman and board member. He is on the Freeman Hospital Board and served as chairman of the board for the Ozarks Public Telecommunications board. Mr. McKinney served as the chairman and board member for the Joplin Southern board and is a former board member of the Joplin Family Y.

Myron McKinney was born on September 9, 1944 in Santa Paula, California, to O.S. and Hazel McKinney. He grew up in Bolivar, Missouri, graduating from Bolivar High School in 1962 as the vice-president of his class. He attended Joplin Junior College and served as the president of the Student Senate and was the captain of the football team. He graduated from Southwest Missouri State University in 1967 with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. In 1964, he married Janet Manard. They have 2 daughters and one grandson.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the Empire District Electric Company will miss the exemplary leadership that Myron McKinney has provided. I would like to personally wish him well in this new stage of his life. I know that he'll continue his service to Southwestern Missouri and am certain that my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable man.



TRIBUTE TO FORMER  
CONGRESSMAN PHILIP RUPPE

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to former Congressman Mr. Philip Ruppe. I would also like to thank my colleague from Michigan for offering this resolution to pay tribute to a great man.

Philip Ruppe is a prime example of the outcome of hard-work and determination. Before serving his constituents for twelve years as their Representative to Congress, he was a successful banker. Before that, he defended our great nation and served in the Navy during the Korean War.

I have known Philip Ruppe for over twenty years and was active in supporting his campaign for the U.S. Senate in 1982. His passion for politics was only trumped by his loyalty to his constituents. He was the first Congressman representing the district to have district offices, no easy task considering the size of his district.

Because of his dedication and hard work, I wish to congratulate Phil on his lifelong achievements and wish nothing but the best in his future endeavors.

UNITED STATES TEXTILE  
INDUSTRY

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced four measures which will help the United States textile industry in its efforts to compete on the global playing field.

Many American textile companies are fighting for their survival due to unfairly undervalued imports produced by low-wage foreign manufacturers. One competitive advantage that the U.S. industry still has is its productivity. The American textile industry is one of the most productive in the world, but American companies must constantly modernize to retain that edge.

Unfortunately, much of the machinery the American textile industry needs to compete is no longer produced here in the United States, so the industry must seek such equipment from foreign sources. However, they must still pay duties on those machines. At a time when our domestic industry is suffering its most severe economic crisis since the Great Depression, with hundreds of closed mills and nearly 70,000 jobs lost in the past year, it makes no sense to require companies to pay duties on equipment that is not produced domestically.

Some of our leading American textile companies have entered Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, others are experiencing substantial losses, and even some of those who are profitable are barely so. For these companies, if we suspend the duties, the money they could save when purchasing new equipment can be put to better use, and we could save more American textile jobs from being lost.

Congress has acted previously to suspend the duties on these particular machines, but

that suspension has now expired. Accordingly, I am introducing legislation to temporarily suspend the collection of duties on these four types of machines that are no longer produced in the U.S.

The machines in question include certain ink jet and other textile printing machines, certain shuttle type power looms, and certain shuttleless power looms. The detailed description of these machines, including their Harmonized Tariff Schedule numbers, are found in the bills themselves. All four types of equipment are essential to various textile producers, large and small, throughout the United States.

I urge the Ways and Means Committee to act swiftly to approve these bills.

THE AMERICAN DREAM  
DOWNPAYMENT ACT

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, turning the key in the door of your very own home for the first time is a thrill that few families ever forget. For generations, the ability to purchase your own home has symbolized the hard work, thrift and personal responsibility that embodies the American Dream.

For some, the idea of owning their own home is but a dream, an unattainable dream. Across our nation, families get up, go to work every day, and play by the rules; but, they find that the downpayment on a home is a hurdle that keeps them from making that important investment in themselves and their community. These are families who, after paying the rent, buying groceries, and meeting their children's needs, have a tough time saving enough money to get past the first step of home ownership—the downpayment and closing costs.

To help first-time, low-income families overcome those highest barriers to home ownership, I am introducing the American Dream Downpayment Act. This legislation will give effect to President Bush's proposal to help 200,000 low-income families achieve the dream of home ownership over five years.

The President's Fiscal Year 2003 budget request included \$200 million in grants to assist first-time, low-income home buyers. As part of his call to expand home ownership opportunity, the Fiscal Year 2003 budget quadruples the President's Down Payment Assistance Initiative from its 2002 level.

In announcing the funds provided in the budget, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Mel Martinez said it best: "Opening the doors to home ownership to more and more Americans is one of this Administration's goals. The American Dream Downpayment fund will accomplish much more than that. By giving as many Americans as possible an opportunity to become stakeholders in their communities, we believe it will help to stabilize some neighborhoods and completely revitalize others."

When I reviewed the President's budget, I knew this would be important for all Americans, especially families in Michigan's metropolitan areas such as Lansing, Flint and Detroit. In giving the President's proposal legislative effect, the American Dream Downpayment

Act will provide communities throughout America with \$200 million in annual grants in Fiscal Year 2003 thru Fiscal Year 2006 to help home buyers with the downpayment and closing costs, the biggest hurdles to home ownership.

Upon enactment, the American Dream Downpayment Act will be administered as part of HUD's existing HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). HOME is a successful program that helps communities expand the supply of standard, affordable housing for low-income and very low income families by providing grants to states and local governments.

The flexible program will enable more than 400 local and state governments to help communities provide low-income families with rate reductions, closings costs and downpayment assistance. Specifically, the focus of the proposal is on low-income families who are also first-time home buyers. To participate, recipients must have annual incomes that do not exceed 80% of the area median income.

I believe that the American Dream Downpayment Act will help increase the overall home ownership rate in the United States, especially among minority groups who have lower rates of home ownership compared to the national average. For example, more than two-thirds of all Americans own their own home, while fewer than half of African-Americans and Hispanic families are homeowners.

I look forward to working with my House colleagues on a simple, but powerful, proposal to move more American families into their own homes—and making their American Dream a reality.

EQUAL PAY DAY—APRIL 16, 2002

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I don't need to tell you how far women have come in the workplace. Women now make up roughly half of all workers. They're breaking into traditionally male fields, from medicine to law enforcement. Women are attending professional and graduate schools at ever increasing rates. Yet, one thing holds women back—unequal pay.

Despite the fact that women's earnings have been growing faster than men's since 1975, women still make only 74 cents for every dollar men earn. More women than ever are participating in the workforce, yet minority women earn only 64% of what men earn. Despite all of these accomplishments, studies show that the pay gap in management positions is actually increasing. It is long past time to stop this wage discrimination.

Unequal pay hurts not just women, but entire families. Tragically, single mothers and their families have a poverty rate of roughly 28%. The number is as high as 40% for African-American single mothers and their families. We cannot sit idly by while families such as these fall deeper and deeper into poverty. These women and children all deserve an equal chance to be financially secure.

Income lost to the pay gap represents lost opportunities for these families. If women in my home state of Michigan earned as much as men, each family would see an income increase of \$5000 per year—income that could

offset some of the costs of child care, provide after-school music or athletic lessons, and could be put away to provide for education.

Pay Equity is something we need to work on everyday, not just on Equal Pay Day. We need to enact the Paycheck Fairness Act to provide solutions for women who are not earning equal wages for equal work. It's been 30 years since the passage of the Equal Pay Act, yet working women still suffer. I am committed to continuing the fight for equal pay until the gap no longer exists. This is an issue of equality, economic security and civil rights. We cannot rest until women are being paid what they deserve.

#### THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR: A MODEL FOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

#### HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to pay tribute to one of the most successful public works projects in our nation's recent history. A \$2.4 billion engineering masterpiece that will greatly bolster U.S. trade with Asia and Latin America and benefit our economy well into the future. The project, which covers a large portion of my district in Long Beach, California, is a 33-foot deep, 50-foot wide trench that allows freight trains to travel underground to and from the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles to downtown Los Angeles.

The 20-mile long corridor eliminated more than 200 railroad crossings and erected 30 new bridges. It will provide residents and travelers throughout southern California with much needed relief from traffic congestion and air and noise pollution. The corridor also reduces travel time for trains by more than half—allowing for increased trade goods to flow in and out of the ports.

The Alameda Corridor celebrated its grand opening on April 12th. I joined with my congressional colleagues, Reps. DAVID DREIER and JUANITA MILLENDER McDONALD, as well as my good friend Secretary Norman Mineta and many other public officials who contributed significantly to the project's completion on schedule and within budget.

Since planning for this project began in the eighties and continued throughout the early nineties, many hands contributed to its progress. But few were as instrumental in giving this project its wings. One of them was my predecessor, former congressman Glenn Anderson. He was chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Public Works. He gave excellent support to the Alameda Corridor when he was in good health. Former Congressman, and now Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta followed him as chairman and continued with strong support. And Gil Hicks, without question, is the visionary who started the ball rolling with the planning group.

I also want to mention another one of Norm Mineta's colleagues . . . Federico Pena, the former Secretary of Transportation. Without his judgement on putting up the money, nothing would have happened throughout the nineties. Other strong supporters were then Speaker Newt Gingrich, then Senate Majority

Leader Bob Dole, and then Governor Pete Wilson. Every one of them was very helpful. And particularly the Congressional delegation from Los Angeles County. We had all sorts of things going at that time. The County was experiencing deep unemployment at the time. With the end of the Cold War, the major airplane manufacturing firms, and hundreds of suppliers closing their doors. The C-17 was the only airplane under production. But Mayor Riordan of Los Angeles and Mayor O'Neill of Long Beach persevered. They both came to Washington on numerous occasions. They were always successful in garnering support from the White House. With these people oiling the wheels, a lot was accomplished by a lot of people. And the winds of trade from Asia and Latin America are moving up that corridor and democracy is thriving. I want to thank all these fine people for what they have done. This project would not have happened without their hard work. The Alameda Corridor will serve as a model for congested cities across the country for years to come.

#### BUSINESS INTEREST CHECKING FREEDOM ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1009 contains a provision, Section 7, entitled Rule of Construction, regarding certain real estate escrow accounts. This provision is substantially the same as Section 7 of H.R. 974, the Small Business Interest Checking Act of 2001, which passed the House last year. The provision makes clear that the current treatment of certain services and benefits provided by banks in lieu of interest in connection with escrow accounts for real estate closing transactions remains the same. There are some minor technical changes to this section from H.R. 974. These changes make the provision more straightforward, and clarify the specific banking statutes to which this provision applies. This provision does not alter the current legal definition of interest or the legal treatment of real estate closing escrow transactions. It is my understanding that current Federal legal standards, including regulatory interpretations, regarding the definition of interest on deposits will continue to stand.

Currently, the Federal Reserve's Regulation Q provides that services and benefits can be given by banks in lieu of interest to depositors. The Regulation also specifically provides that the provision or the receipt of such services and benefits does not constitute interest. Such services and benefits include for example, free printed checks, safe deposit and night depository facilities, low-interest loans, and armored car services. In Texas, numerous small title agencies, underwriters, and attorneys benefit from these services. The average title agency in Texas is a small, locally based family businesses, usually employing no more than six or seven employees. These agencies are mainstays within their communities and provide service to individual customers who are purchasing homes. Maintaining the current regulatory interpretation of interest is important to the health of many of these businesses. In our

nation's highly developed financial system, Federal banking law and regulations have operated to facilitate the smooth and efficient flow of real estate transactions and promoted American homeownership. I am optimistic that these services will continue to be provided in the current efficient manner when H.R. 1009 becomes law.

#### REGARDING THE INTRODUCTION OF DUTY SUSPENSION BILLS

#### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce 13 bills to suspend the duty on the importation of products used by a manufacturer in my home state of Rhode Island. Several of these products are organic colorants used in manufacturing processes requiring unique characteristics beyond the mere addition of color. For example, some of the products are used in the manufacture of plastics; they combine the characteristics of stability in high heat as well as maintaining the color of the plastic for long periods of time. Others are used for automotive coatings, and they replace older colorants based on metals such as lead, chromium, molybdenum, cadmium and mercury.

Also among the products for which I am seeking temporary duty relief are colorants that can maintain their exact shade even when used in manufacturing processes exceeding 200 degrees centigrade. Other products are intermediate chemicals used in the manufacture of pigments.

The temporary suspension of duty on products imported into the United States is sound public policy so long as there is no domestic producer of the same products or directly competitive products. I have been assured there are no domestic producers of the 13 products for which I am seeking duty relief. Eliminating the duty on these products will allow the Rhode Island manufacturer to maintain its competitiveness in the international market. The products for which I am seeking duty suspension are manufactured overseas by the sister companies of the Rhode Island manufacturer. In addition, I was pleased to learn that the Rhode Island company invested several million dollars to expand domestic manufacturing capacity in Rhode Island for a product that formerly received a suspension of duty.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW AND MICHAEL FLOCCO

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a son and his father who exemplify what is best about the United States of America. Matthew Flocco who died on September 11, 2001 in service to his country at the Pentagon, and his father, Michael Flocco, who has set an example for all Americans who love their family and their country.

On the reconstruction site at the Pentagon, Michael Flocco wears a hard hat displaying stickers that read "Pentagon Renovation Program" and "Proud to be a Union sheet metal worker." Known to his fellow sheet-metal workers as a gregarious character, Michael is part of a one thousand person team of faithful Americans working to reconstruct the Pentagon in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks.

But the events that led Michael to assignment at the Pentagon set him apart from the workers around him. In fact, for Michael Flocco, installing duct-work for the heating and air conditioning systems in the Pentagon is not just work, it is part of a healing process and a wonderful tribute to his son Matthew.

Michael and Sheila Flocco raised Matthew, their only child, in Newark, Delaware. Matthew, a quiet and reflective young man, was liked and respected by all who knew him. Matthew joined the United States Navy after graduating from high school in 1998.

Fully committed to serving his country, Matthew rose to the top of his Navy class in meteorology and was quickly spotted by an admiral who gave him an important assignment at the Pentagon. As an Aerographer's Mate Second Class, Matthew performed important duties at the National Ice Center for the Departments of Defense and Transportation. He used his expertise as a weather analyst to safeguard ships traveling in ice-covered waters.

But in a tragic twist of fate, this young American's bright future was cut short on September 11th, 2001, during the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. Matthew was only 21 years old.

When the news of their only son's death reached Sheila and Michael Flocco, they were devastated.

But Michael, a third generation sheet metal worker, knew exactly what he had to do. Working on the construction of the new courthouse in Wilmington, Michael approached his superiors and requested a transfer to the Pentagon rebuilding project.

In January 2002, Michael pulled his 24-foot recreational vehicle into a Maryland R.V. park. Now, the man who lost his son less than ten months ago rises at 4:00 a.m. every day, throws on his brown jacket with "Floc," his nickname, scrawled in permanent marker on the back, and heads to work with one thing in mind. Michael Flocco is determined to, as he says, "fill that hole in the wall and fill that hole in my heart."

Michael plans to continue working on the rebuilding project through September 11th, 2002, a date that marks the one year anniversary of his son's death, as well as a formal reopening ceremony of the Pentagon. Michael Flocco's response to his son's death is an inspiration to every American.

Today we are here to pay tribute to a son and his father; We are here to recognize an outstanding example of dedication to the United States of America; We are here to honor the best character of Americans—refusal to be defeated in the face of tremendous adversity.

We are here today to dedicate this field, which forever will be a symbol of Matthew's love for baseball and love for America.

## THE ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY'S 27TH ANNUAL CONGRESS

### HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, in 2002, more than 1.2 million Americans will hear the words "You have cancer." More than 500,000 Americans will lose their battle with this terrible disease. Oncology nurses are on the front lines in the battle against cancer. Every day, they see the pain and suffering caused by cancer. They understand the physical, emotional, and financial challenges that cancer patients face throughout their life.

The Oncology Nursing Society is the largest organization of oncology health professionals in the world with more than 30,000 registered nurses and other health care professionals. There are three chapters of the ONS in my home state of Mississippi located in Brandon, Ocean Springs, and Tupelo. These chapters provide important benefits and services to oncology nurses throughout Mississippi.

This week more than 5,000 oncology nurses from around the country have traveled to Washington, DC, to attend the Oncology Nursing Society's 27th Annual Congress. This year's theme is aptly titled "The Many Faces of Oncology Nursing." The attendees will increase their knowledge of the newest cancer treatments, learn the latest developments in cancer nursing research, and enhance their clinical skills. In addition, approximately 550 of these nurses, representing 49 states, will come to Capitol Hill to discuss issues of concern to oncology nurses. I encourage my colleagues to meet with these nurses and to listen to the expert advice of these expert health care professionals.

I commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its efforts and leadership over the last 27 years and I thank the Society's members for their ongoing commitment to improving the quality of care for all cancer patients and their families.

## IN COMMEMORATION OF SMITHFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA

### HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in commemoration of Smithfield, North Carolina. On April 23, 2002 Smithfield will celebrate its 225th Birthday. Smithfield is located in the heart of Johnston County in the 2nd Congressional District of North Carolina. Established on the banks of the Neuse River as the seat of Johnston County Government in 1777, it is one of the oldest towns in the United States.

Though Smithfield is a town with just over 11,000 residents, the residents carry themselves with a pride representative of the entire state of North Carolina. It is a community that supports traditional family values, southern hospitality and that offers a high quality of life. Into this inviting environment has come a myriad of large and small businesses, drawn by a dedication to hard work. The pride of the community is shown in the excellence of its school

system—in its facilities, educators and students. An example of this excellence is Johnston Community College housed in Smithfield.

Smithfield is known worldwide for its ham and yams, and each year the town celebrates during the Ham & Yam Festival. The festival is held the first weekend in May each year, and features arts, crafts, commercial vendors, a carnival, dancing and youth activities. Smithfield's heritage is rich in Civil War and agricultural history.

The strong work ethic and dedication of the people of Smithfield has made Johnston County the number two county in the nation in growing flue-cured tobacco. Not only does Smithfield raise great crops but also great individuals. Among Smithfield's finest is Actress Ava Gardner. Ava Gardner grew up near Smithfield and is buried in Sunset Memorial Park. Today she is honored in a local museum celebrating her Hollywood career with more than 100,000 items.

Mr. Speaker in closing I will like to send my best wishes and gratitude to the people of Smithfield, North Carolina in wishing them a Very Happy Birthday! I know that our nation is stronger today because of their contributions.

## MARY HILAND HONORED FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, today we rise to recognize the achievements of Mary Hiland, President and Chief Executive Officer of Alliance For Community Care of Santa Clara County. We would like to recognize Ms. Hiland's extraordinary and tireless efforts to the people of Santa Clara County and thank her for her 25 years of service in the nonprofit mental health field.

Mary Hiland served as President/CEO for the Alliance For Community Care from January 1977 to March 2002. One of the largest nonprofit mental health agencies in Silicon Valley, ALLIANCE was formed on January 1, 1997, through the merger of four nonprofit agencies. Under Ms. Hiland's leadership, the resulting new organization grew significantly. Today, ALLIANCE serves over 4,000 youth, adults and older adults affected by mental illness through a comprehensive array of in-home, crisis residential, vocational, outpatient treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Ms. Hiland's career in the nonprofit mental health field began after she graduated from San Jose State University with both a Masters degree in Social Work and Public Administration. In 1986, she joined the faculty of SISU College of Social Work part-time and taught courses in public policy and management. Her community service includes serving on several Boards of Directors, task forces, and participation in numerous committees. Ms. Hiland is past president both of the Association of Mental Health Contract Agencies and the Association of United Way Agencies. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the California Council of community Mental Health

Agencies and the Center for Excellence in Nonprofits.

Ms. Hiland was the recipient of the 1994 Soroptomist Woman of the Year Award for her advocacy for people with mental illness. In 1999, she received the National Society of Fund Raising Executive Spirit of Philanthropy award for her contributions in building a new United Way. In 2001, she was honored as a Community Champion for Mental Health and received the first Silicon Valley Excellence in Nonprofit Leadership Award.

We wish to thank Mary Hiland for her contributions to the field of mental health in Santa Clara County.

HONORING STEPHEN P. YOKICH,  
PRESIDENT OF THE UAW, ON HIS  
RETIREMENT

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Stephen P. Yokich, on the occasion of his retirement after nearly 35 years of dedication to the UAW, including his impressive two terms as President of the organization.

Steve is a natural born leader and has been a driving force within the UAW. He has played a leading role in re-energizing the labor movement, developing new strategies to address the challenges of the global economy, expanding the UAW's organizing activities, and cementing close ties with other major unions.

Steve's long and impressive career in the labor community began when he was appointed by UAW President Walter Reuther to the Region I staff in 1969. Since then, Mr. Speaker, Steve has worked to make the UAW the strong and diversified organization that it is today.

A former director of the UAW's Organizing Department (from 1983 to 1989), Steve has made organizing a top priority of the Union. An early advocate of diversifying the UAW's membership, he planned and directed the highly successful 1985 organizing drive that brought 22,000 State of Michigan employees into the UAW.

Mr. Yokich also has impeccable collective bargaining skills which were displayed on several occasions, including his 1999 and 1996 negotiations with the major automakers. Under Steve's leadership, the contracts achieved with the Big Three automakers in 1996 bolstered hallmark job and income security programs, and further expanded the widely respected "People Programs," that benefit members and their families.

In the weeks leading up to the traditional opening of contract talks with the Big Three in 1996, Yokich's bargaining innovation and savvy took the floor. He surprised the companies and industry observers by refusing to designate one company a "strike target." As

he told the press, "Our members elected us to bring back agreements, not to go on strike."

Just a few days prior to contract expiration, Yokich announced that the Ford Motor Company would be the lead company for the Union's all-out settlement efforts. The results validated Steve's innovative new approach to auto negotiations. The Union gained wage and benefit increases in each year of the three-year Ford agreement, and greatly strengthened existing job and income security programs. Other key gains included: cost of living protection for retirees, health care improvements and the enhancement of many other programs.

Mr. Yokich made an historic breakthrough with the first company-paid tuition assistance for post secondary education of dependents of UAW members, as well as tuition assistance for retirees. Similar contracts then followed at Chrysler and General Motors.

Mr. Speaker, Steve has also been a forceful leader in bringing women and minorities into top UAW leadership positions. He has always been a strong believer that the UAW leadership must accurately reflect the make-up of the membership.

Mr. Yokich not only believed in diversifying the UAW, but he also fought for improvements in workplace health and safety and for education and training for UAW-represented workers and their families. Steve was widely praised for his pioneering role in developing Employee Assistance Programs to help workers with problems such as drug and alcohol abuse.

Steve has had a hand in virtually all facets of the UAW including the UAW's Agricultural Implement Department and the Skilled Trades Department. He is also a veteran political activist. Steve has coordinated and participated in numerous statewide and national campaigns.

As if all of the above was not an impressive enough list of accomplishments, Mr. Yokich is also involved in a wide range of labor, civic, and charitable organizations. He is a member of the NAACP and the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), and serves on the boards or steering committees of the Economic Alliance of Michigan, Michigan Blue Cross-Blue Shield, the Michigan Cancer Foundation, and the Father Clement Kern Foundation.

Mr. Yokich and his wife, Tekla, are the parents of two children, Stephen A. and Tracey, and have one grandson, Michael Stephen. Hopefully, his retirement will allow him to enjoy more time with his family, as well as devoting more time to golfing, hunting and fishing.

Mr. Speaker, as Steve leaves after nearly thirty-five years of dedication to the UAW, I would ask that all my colleagues salute him and his efforts on behalf of American workers.

JOHNSON COUNTY "MOVERS AND SHAKERS" RECOGNIZE YOUNG COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take note of an upcoming event that will be held by the Volunteer Center of Johnson County, Kansas, to recognize local young people who have recently performed meaningful, voluntary community service in our local area.

Young people from Johnson County, ages 5 to 18, have been nominated by teachers, counselors, principals and nonprofit agencies to receive recognition for their community service efforts. The Volunteer Center of Johnson County is proudly hosting the second annual Movers and Shakers Recognition Event to honor these outstanding young residents of the Third Congressional District on May 7th. I am proud to report that volunteering has become a vital part of these children's education and I join with the Volunteer Center to recognize these dedicated, caring young people of Johnson County.

Annalisa Barelli, Shawnee Mission East;  
Lindsay Barker, Shawnee Mission East;  
Kim Beverlin, Shawnee Mission North;  
Ariel Brody, Shawnee Mission NorthWest;  
Kathleen Carey, Shawnee Mission East;  
Stephanie Chen, Blue Valley NorthWest;  
Jared Cole, Shawnee Mission East;  
Kyle Douglas, Shawnee Mission West;  
Abbigail Eli, Mill Valley High School;  
Jeanne Firth, Shawnee Mission East;  
Maxwell Fisher, Blue Valley NorthWest;  
Sollie Flora, Blue Valley NorthWest;  
Chelsea Fogleman, Olathe East;  
Jennifer Gampher, Shawnee Mission West;  
Stephen Green, St. Joseph Grade School;  
Ashley Haddad, Shawnee Mission South;  
Carolyn Hummel, Trailridge Middle School;  
Elaine Jardon, Olathe East;  
Ashley Johnson, Shawnee Mission NorthWest;  
Brenden Konczal, Shawnee Mission West;  
Lisa Kornfeld, Shawnee Mission West;  
Bridget Mayer, Blue Valley NorthWest;  
Kaley McManamon, Blue Valley High School;  
Alicia McWhorter, Mill Valley High School;  
Stephen Meeker, Shawnee Mission South;  
Kathleen Murray, Blue Valley North;  
Simin Nomani, Blue Valley North;  
Katherine Pfeffer, Cure of Ars Catholic School;  
Liz Pishny, Blue Valley High School;  
Travis Preston, Shawnee Mission West;  
Lauren Repine, St. Thomas Aquinas;  
Julie Richerson, Trailridge Middle School;  
Alix Santa Maria, Blue Valley Middle School;  
Adam Schieber, Shawnee Mission NorthWest;  
Danay Stanislaus, Olathe East;  
Erika Swenson, Shawnee Mission South;  
Shannon White, Blue Valley High School;  
Kim Williams, Shawnee Mission South;  
Matt Woehrle, Blue Valley High School;  
Richard Zernickow, Shawnee Mission West.